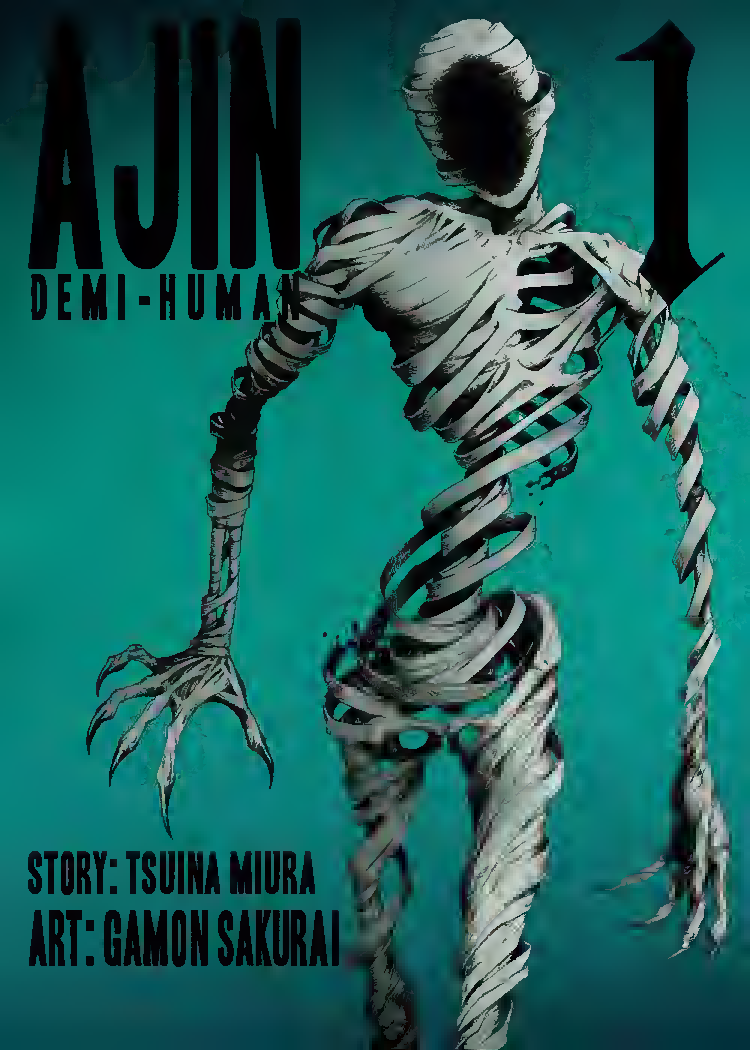
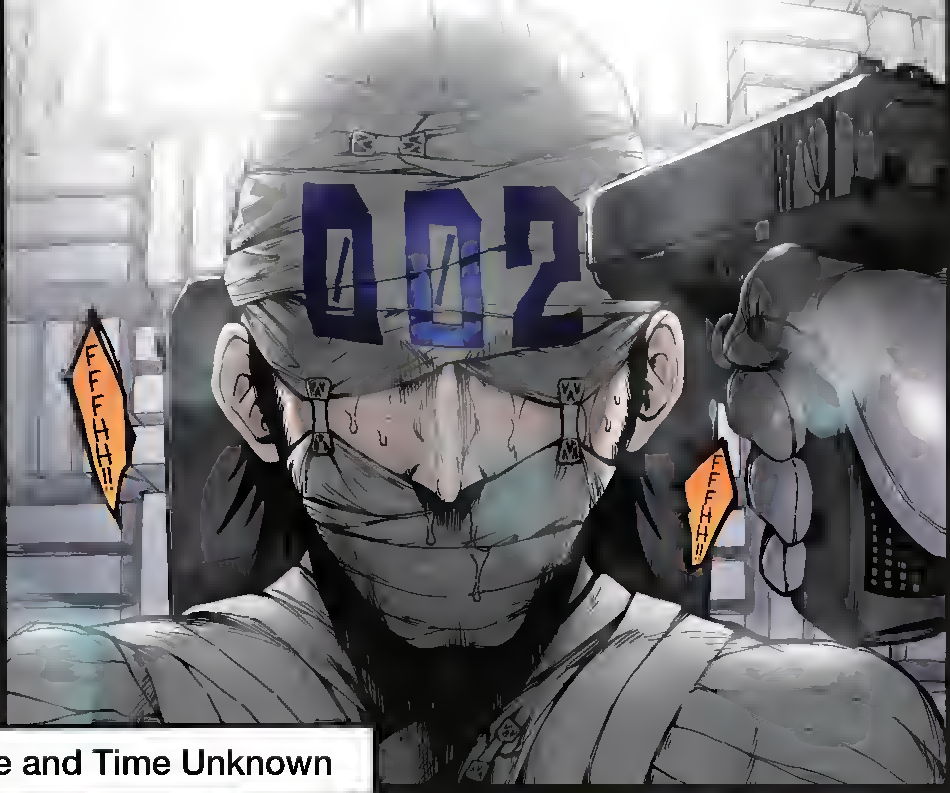
AJIN 1

DEMI-HUMAN

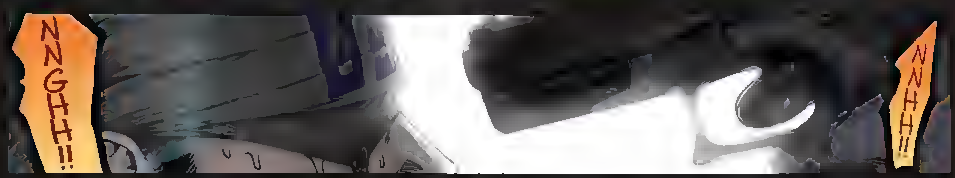


STORY: TSUINA MIURA

ART: GAMON SAKURAI



Date and Time Unknown



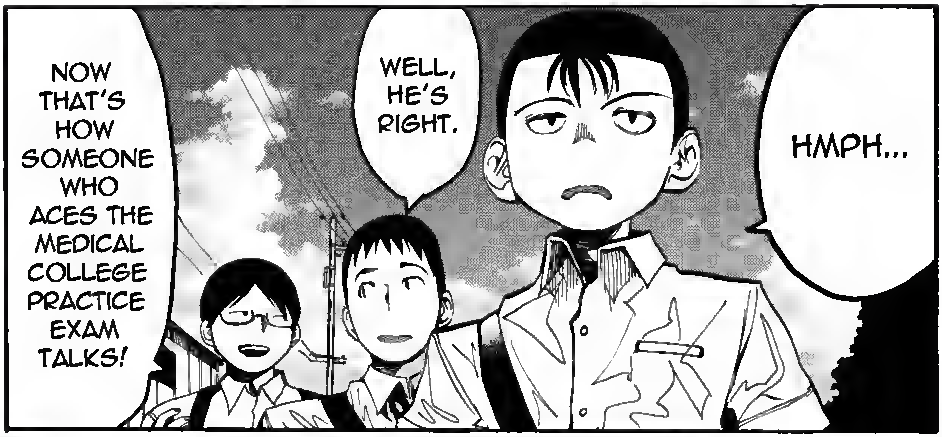
Story: Tsuina Miura
Art: Gamon Sakurai

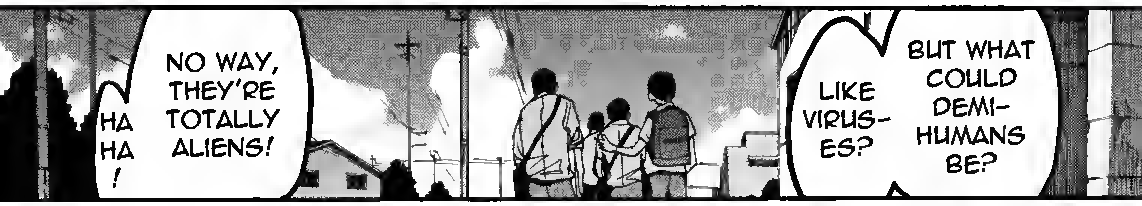
AJIN
DEMI-HUMAN
File 01: Detection and Subsequent Actions

SUMMER BREAK'S COMING UP...
July 23, 07:01
...
WHAT'RE YOUR PLANS, NAGAI?
JEEZ ...
MY PLANS...? WELL... I CAN'T BE OUT HAVING FUN.
...
YOU MED SCHOOL HOPE-FULS HAVE IT TOUGH.
STUDY-ING THROUGH VACA-TION, TOO?

ALL I'M TRYING TO DO IS WORK HARD SO I CAN DO SOMETHING GOOD WITH MY LIFE...
GOD... WHY'S HE THE ONE THAT GETS TO BE SARCASTIC?
I NEED TO KEEP MY FRIENDS, ANYWAY...
...WHATEVER.

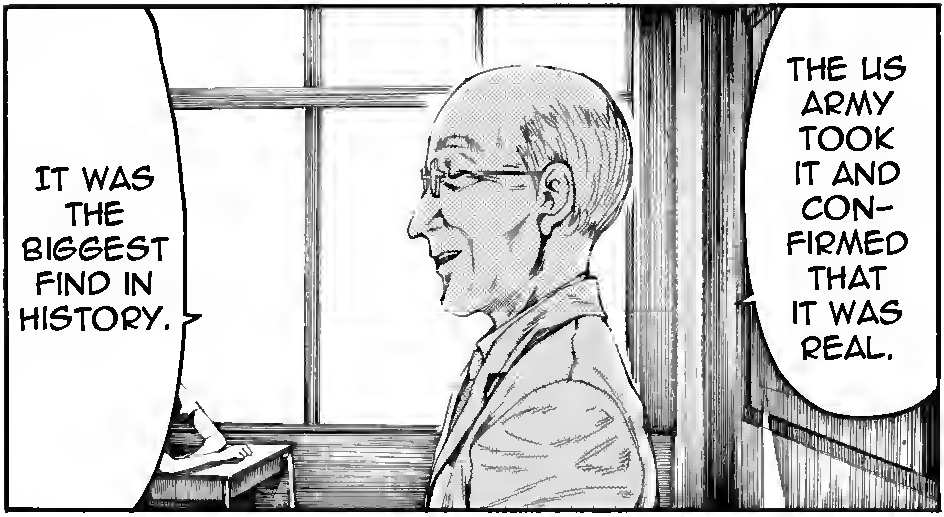
KAI...
Orange Milk
YOU KNOW HIM?
... YEAH, RIGHT.
HE'S A FREAK.
YEAH ... A FREAK ...
MAYBE HE'S ONE OF THOSE "DEMI-HUMANS"!
YEAH!
HE SURE SEEMS LIKE A DIF-FERENT SPE-CIES!
WHAT'S THAT STUFF HAVE TO DO WITH US?
C'MON, LET'S HURRY.

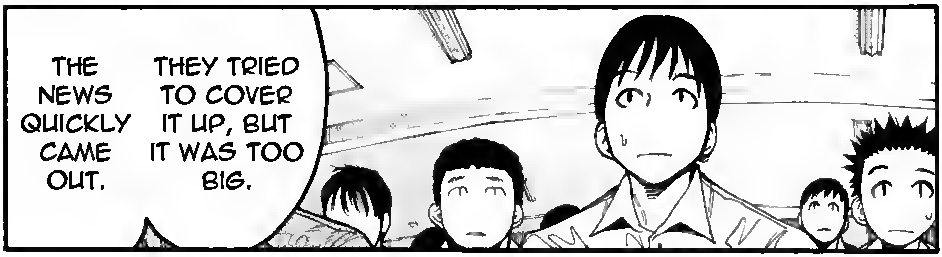

NOW THAT'S HOW SOMEONE WHO ACES THE MEDICAL COLLEGE PRACTICE EXAM TALKS!
WELL, HE'S RIGHT.
HMPH...


HA HA!
NO WAY, THEY'RE TOTALLY ALIENS!
LIKE VIRUS-ES?
BUT WHAT COULD DEMI-HUMANS BE?

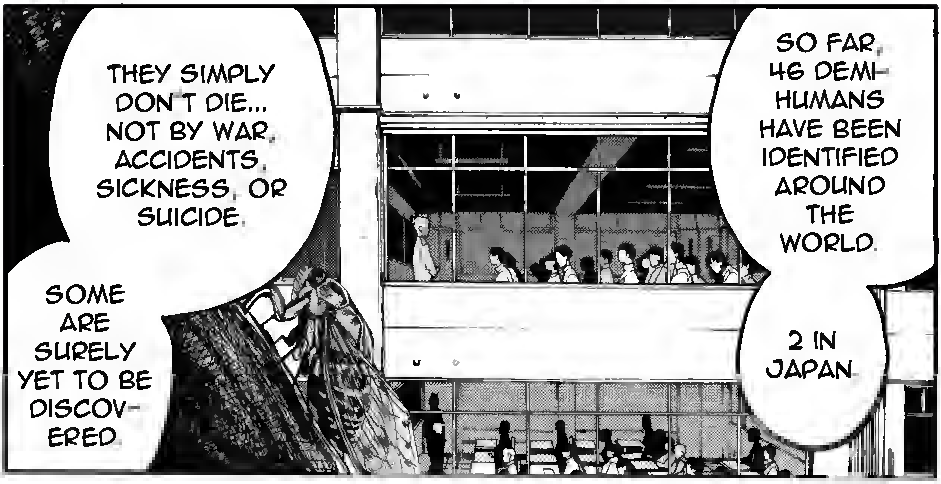
3-1
TODAY,
WE'RE GOING TO TALK ABOUT DEMI-HUMANS.

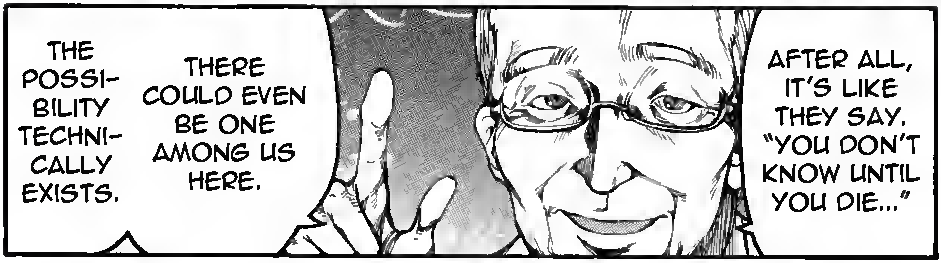
ALL RIGHT, AO-YAMA.
Reminders for Summer Break
FIRST, TELL ME WHAT YOU KNOW ABOUT THEM...
THEY'RE IMMORTAL. THEY CAN NEVER DIE.
IT'S UNCERTAIN IF THERE ARE ANY EXCEP-TIONS, THOUGH.
DEMI-HUMANS... I CAN IGNORE THIS CLASS.
THAT'S RIGHT. IT'S SAID THAT DEMI-HUMANS ARE INCA-PABLE OF DYING.
THAT'S ABOUT ALL THE PUBLIC KNOWS.
THEY ALSO EMIT A SO-CALLED "UNIQUE VOICE."
IT WAS A SOLDIER THAT THE LOCALS CALLED THE "SOLDIER OF GOD."
OH, THE SAME YEAR ALL OF YOU WERE BORN.
DEMI-HUMANS WERE FIRST DISCOVERED 17 YEARS AGO IN AFRICA.

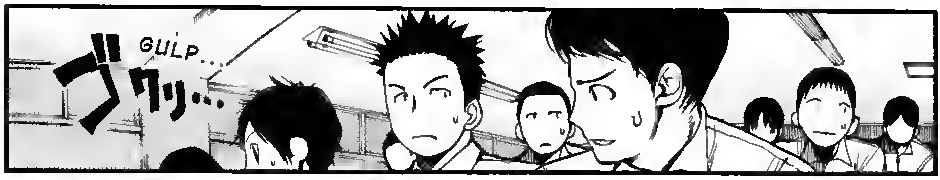

IT WAS THE BIGGEST FIND IN HISTORY.
THE US ARMY TOOK IT AND CONFIRMED THAT IT WAS REAL.

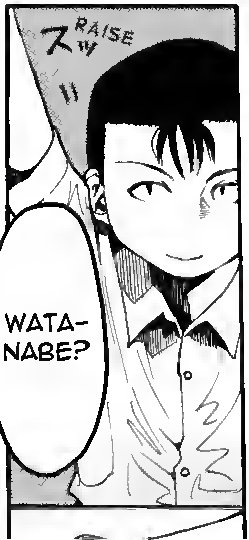

THE NEWS QUICKLY CAME OUT.
THEY TRIED TO COVER IT UP, BUT IT WAS TOO BIG.

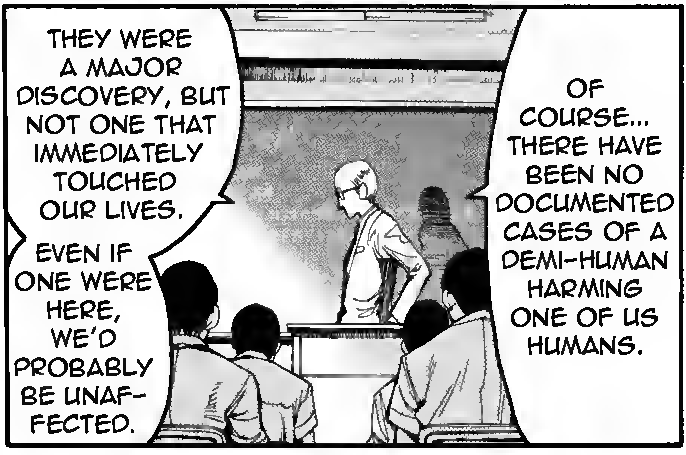
SOME EVEN SAID AN ALIEN HAD BEEN DISCOVERED. THERE WAS A LOT OF PANICKING.
OF COURSE... THINGS HAVE CALMED BACK DOWN NOW.
YOU'VE PROBABLY ONLY HEARD THE STORIES, BUT IT CAUSED QUITE AN UPROAR AT THE TIME...


THEY SIMPLY DON'T DIE... NOT BY WAR, ACCIDENTS, SICKNESS, OR SUICIDE.
SOME ARE SURELY YET TO BE DISCOVERED.
SO FAR, 46 DEMI-HUMANS HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED AROUND THE WORLD.
2 IN JAPAN.


THE POSSIBILITY TECHNICALLY EXISTS.
THERE COULD EVEN BE ONE AMONG US HERE.
AFTER ALL, IT'S LIKE THEY SAY, "YOU DON'T KNOW UNTIL YOU DIE..."


GULP...
ゴクリ...

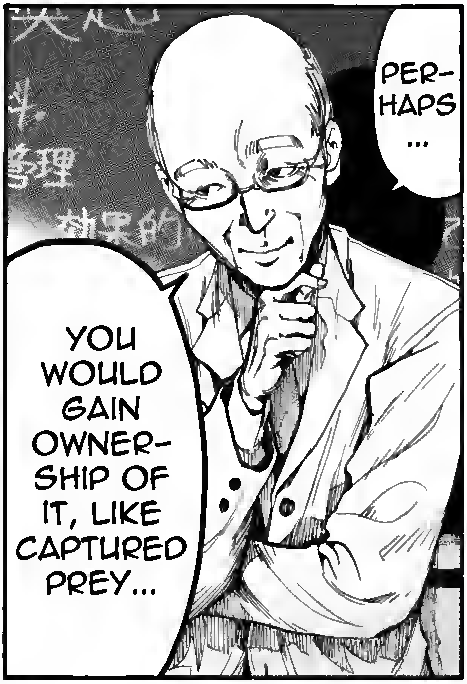

RAISE
WATANABE?


THEY WERE A MAJOR DISCOVERY, BUT NOT ONE THAT IMMEDIATELY TOUCHED OUR LIVES.
EVEN IF ONE WERE HERE, WE'D PROBABLY BE UNAFFECTED.
OF COURSE... THERE HAVE BEEN NO DOCUMENTED CASES OF A DEMI-HUMAN HARMING ONE OF US HUMANS.

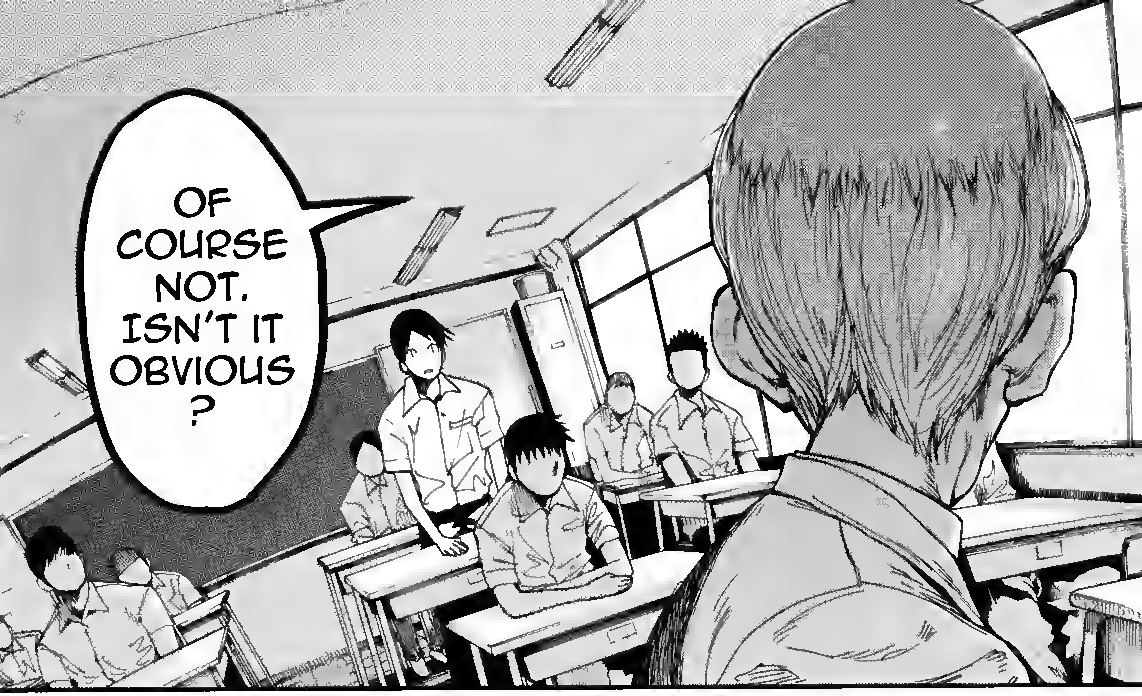
I'VE HEARD RUMORS ABOUT DEMI-HUMANS...
...WELL
LIKE IF YOU FIND AND CAPTURE ONE, THERE'S A "GIANT REWARD."
HMM ...

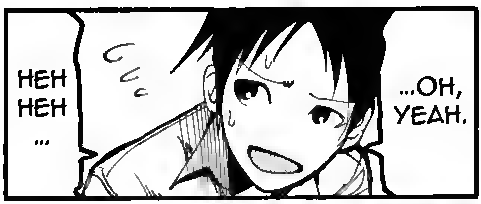
IT WOULD BE AN EXTREMELY RARE CASE, SO YOU WOULD SURELY GAIN FAME...
BUT A REWARD...
...

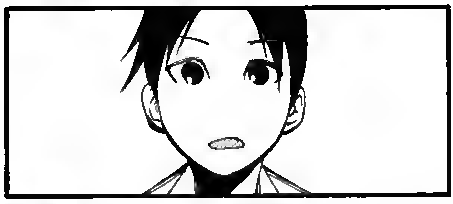
PREY ?


PER-HAPS ...
YOU WOULD GAIN OWNER-SHIP OF IT, LIKE CAPTURED PREY...

... OH.
...
KEI NAGAI.
...
RAISE YOUR HAND BEFORE SPEAKING.
UM... SO, DEMI-HU-MANS ...
AREN'T PEOPLE ?
...?
?
?
HUH ?


OF COURSE NOT. ISN'T IT OBVIOUS?


HEH HEH...


...OH, YEAH.

THE UTILITY OF DEMI-HUMANS...
NEXT,

Mom...
We're not going to the hospital...?

We got stuck with a defective one
Damn pet shop.
Maybe I should sue
He was sick... that's just what happens.
Kei... why did he die?

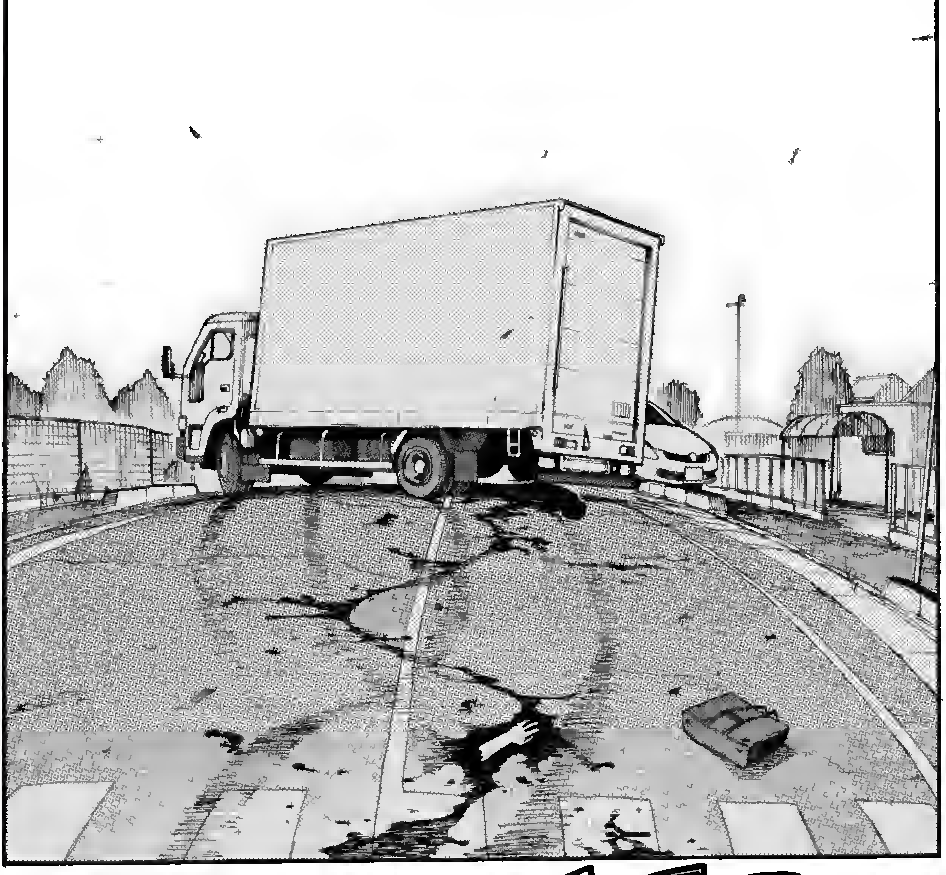
Why ...?
You die if you're defective?
...
It's okay ...!
Of course not...!
But...
Why do we die?
not like we need to...
It's ...

Not
...
Need
...
Die
...

Who are you?
You ...
Who ...
...Who are you?
KEI ...?
KEI

TIRED FROM TOO MUCH STUDYING?
YOU'RE SPACING OUT, KEI.
HUH?
YEAH, RIGHT.
WHAT DID I...
WHY WOULD THAT COME UP NOW?
A CHILDHOOD MEMORY?
JUST REMEMBER?
NO... I JUST NEED TO CONCENTRATE ON STUDYING FOR NOW...
IT FEELS LIKE... THERE'S SOMETHING I'M FORGETTING.

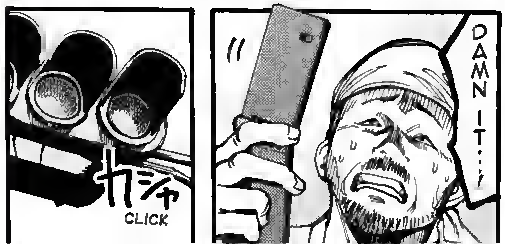
I NEED TO BECOME A RE-SPECTABLE PERSON.
HOOOONK!!
AH—



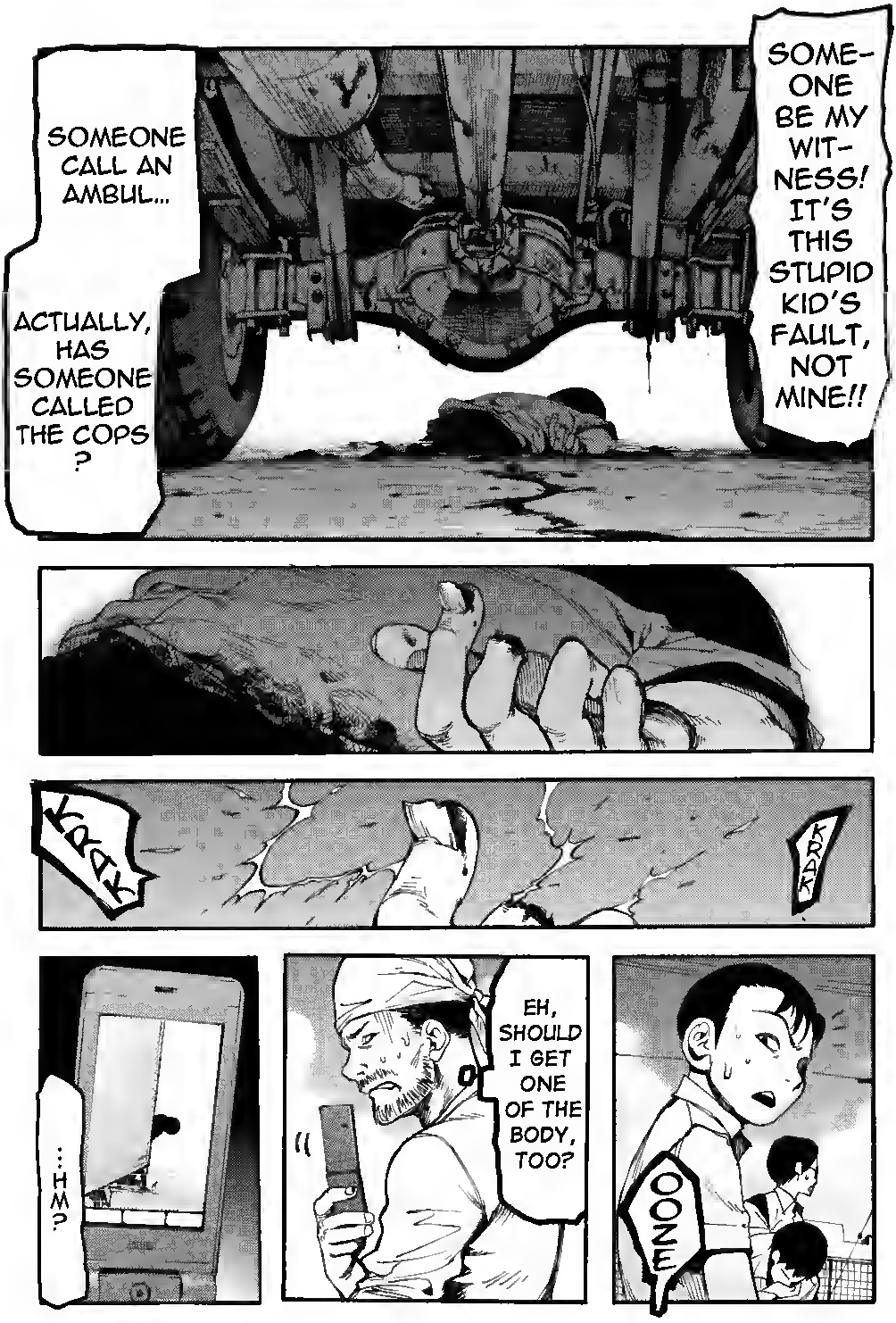
AN ACCIDENT?!
AHH
CHATTER
CHATTER
DON'T LOOK...

...BRAINS?
Bleee-gh...!!
Ugh...
AH

LOOK!!
LOOK AT THE LIGHT!


カシャ
CLICK
DAMN IT...!

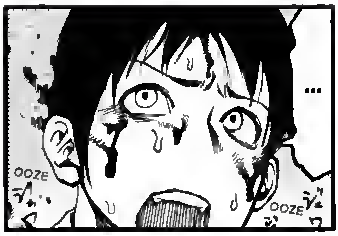
AGH...!
BAM


SOMEONE CALL AN AMBUL...
ACTUALLY, HAS SOMEONE CALLED THE COPS ?
SOME-ONE BE MY WIT-NESS! IT'S THIS STUPID KID'S FAULT, NOT MINE!!
KRAK
KRAK
...HM?
EH, SHOULD I GET ONE OF THE BODY, TOO?
OONE

NOOO
NOOO

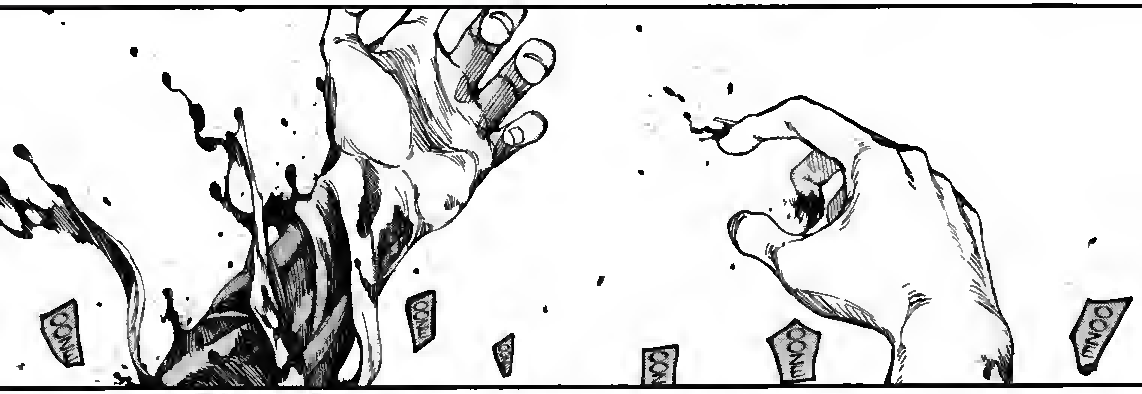
...
...

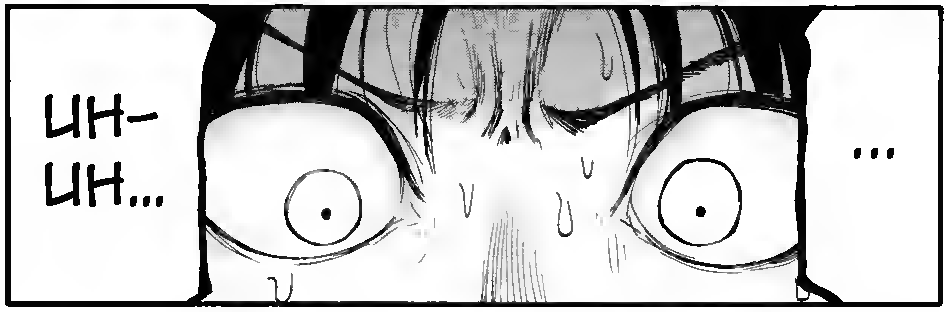
OONE
OONE
KUH
...

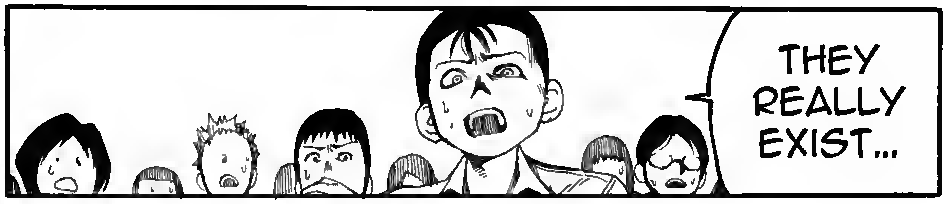

...
OOZE
OOZE

OOZE

SLIP


CONK!
CONK!
CONK!
CONK!
CONK!

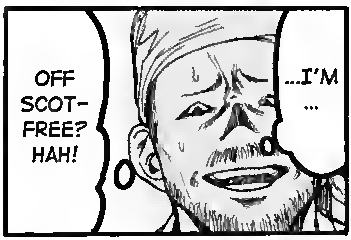

UH-
UH...
...


THEY
REALLY
EXIST...

HU-
MAN
...
I'M
...
H-
HUH
?
NO
...
UH-
UH...
Y-YEAH...
I BELIEVE
YOU, OF
COURSE!
...
WE'RE...
FRIENDS,
AFTER
ALL.
Ha ha ha
RESEARCH
AH...
REWARD
FAME
DEMI-
HUMANS
AREN'T
PEOPLE.
UTILITY

WAAAAA-
AAAAGH
TWITCH
DASH
MY BODY ...
H... HUH ?!

A DEMI-HUMAN!
SERI-OUS-LY?
WAS IT?
A DEMI-HU-MAN?
HUH?
HM...?
...


OFF SCOT-FREE? HAH!
...I'M...

WHERE'D IT GO?!
WE...WE GOT-TA GO CAP-TURE IT!

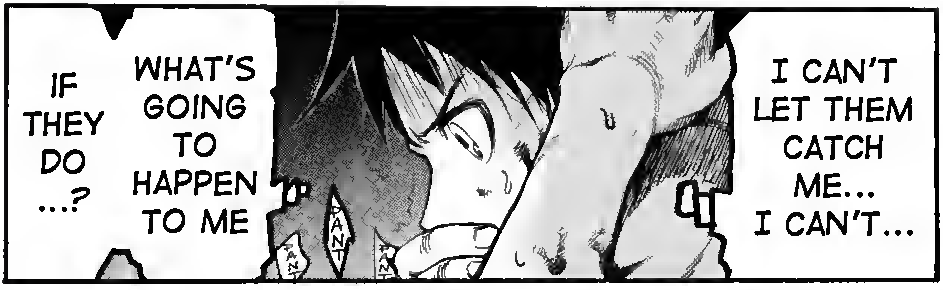
...HEY, YOU.
?
ウーー!
WOOOO
ウー~!
WOOOO
ざわ
CHATTER
ざわ
CHATTER

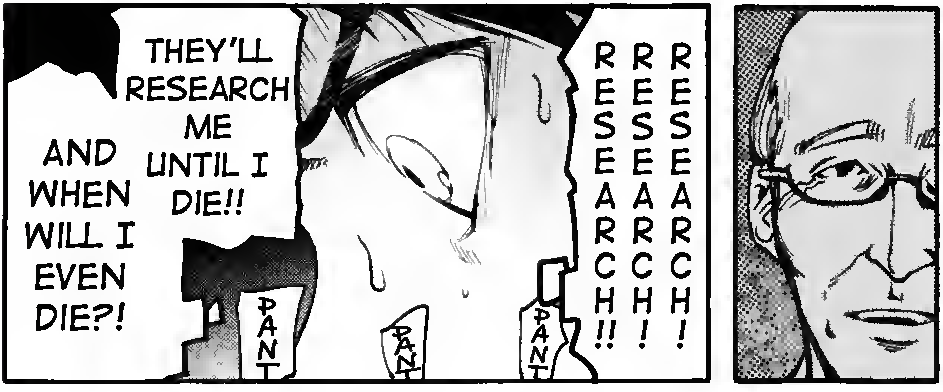
DO YOU KNOW AN...
...INDI-VIDUAL... NAMED KEI NAGAI?
...
NO CLUE.
WHAT'D THE GUY DO?
WELL, YOU SEE...
YOU WON'T BELIEVE IT! THEY SAY HE'S A DEMI-HUMAN!
HEY, LADY ...!
IT'S TRUE! MY NEIGH-BOR SAW HIM BE REVIVED!
WHO CARES.
BUT YOU SEE ...
STEP
STEP

DASH

KEI...!

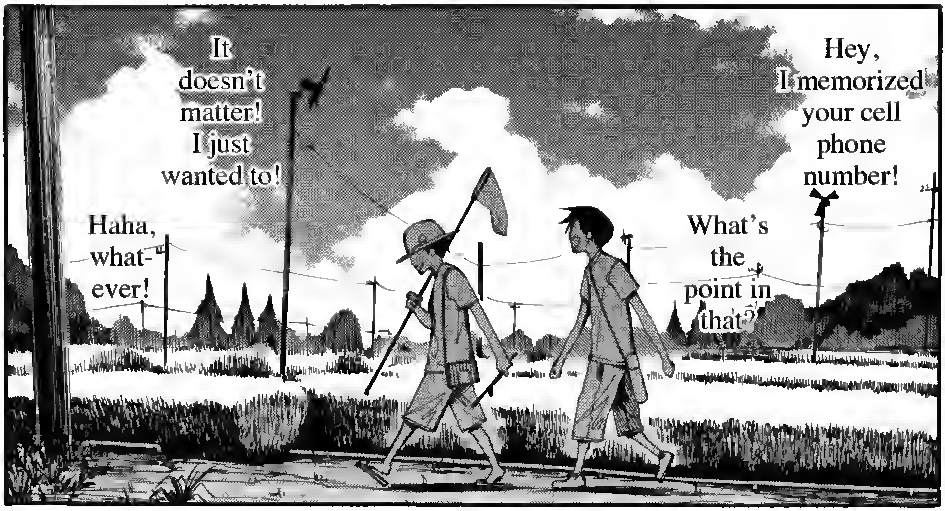
PANT!!
PANT
PANT
PANT!!

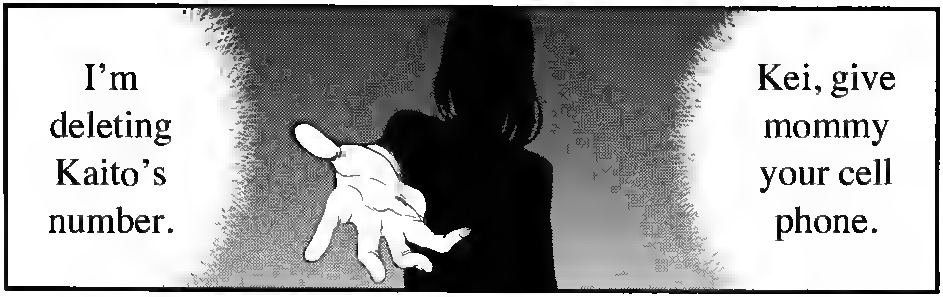

I CAN'T LET THEM CATCH ME... I CAN'T...
WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN TO ME
IF THEY DO ...?
PANT
PANT
PANT


RESEARCH!
RESEARCH!
RESEARCH!!
THEY'LL RESEARCH ME UNTIL I DIE!!
AND WHEN WILL I EVEN DIE?!
PANT
PANT
PANT

I CAN'T LET THEM CATCH ME!
THEY'LL TREAT ME LIKE AN ANIMAL UNTIL THE DAY I DIE...!
AND AGAIN, WHEN'S THAT EVEN GOING TO BE?!
CLIK
THAT WAS CLOSE... THE PEOPLE TRYING TO FIND ME ARE PROBABLY CALLING IT.
...I NEVER TURNED THE POWER BACK ON...
NO ...!!
NO ...
CAN'T CALL HOME... POLICE ARE OUT, TOO...
DO I ASK FOR HELP ...? HOW?

THERE'S NO ONE
I CAN ASK FOR HELP...
...KAI!
...KAI...
Kei?
What is it...


It doesn't matter! I just wanted to!
Hey, I memorized your cell phone number!
Haha, whatever!
What's the point in that?


I'm deleting Kaito's number.
Kei, give mommy your cell phone.

You're not allowed to play with him any more.
Why?

You can't play with the wrong people.
If you want to grow up to be a respectable person,

TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP
KEI?
YO.
KAI!! UH-UH... SAVE ME!!
I KNOW. I WILL.
WHAT DO I DO?! WHAT... UH... WHAT...
CALM DOWN.
ゴソ
RUSTLE
ゴソ
RUSTLE

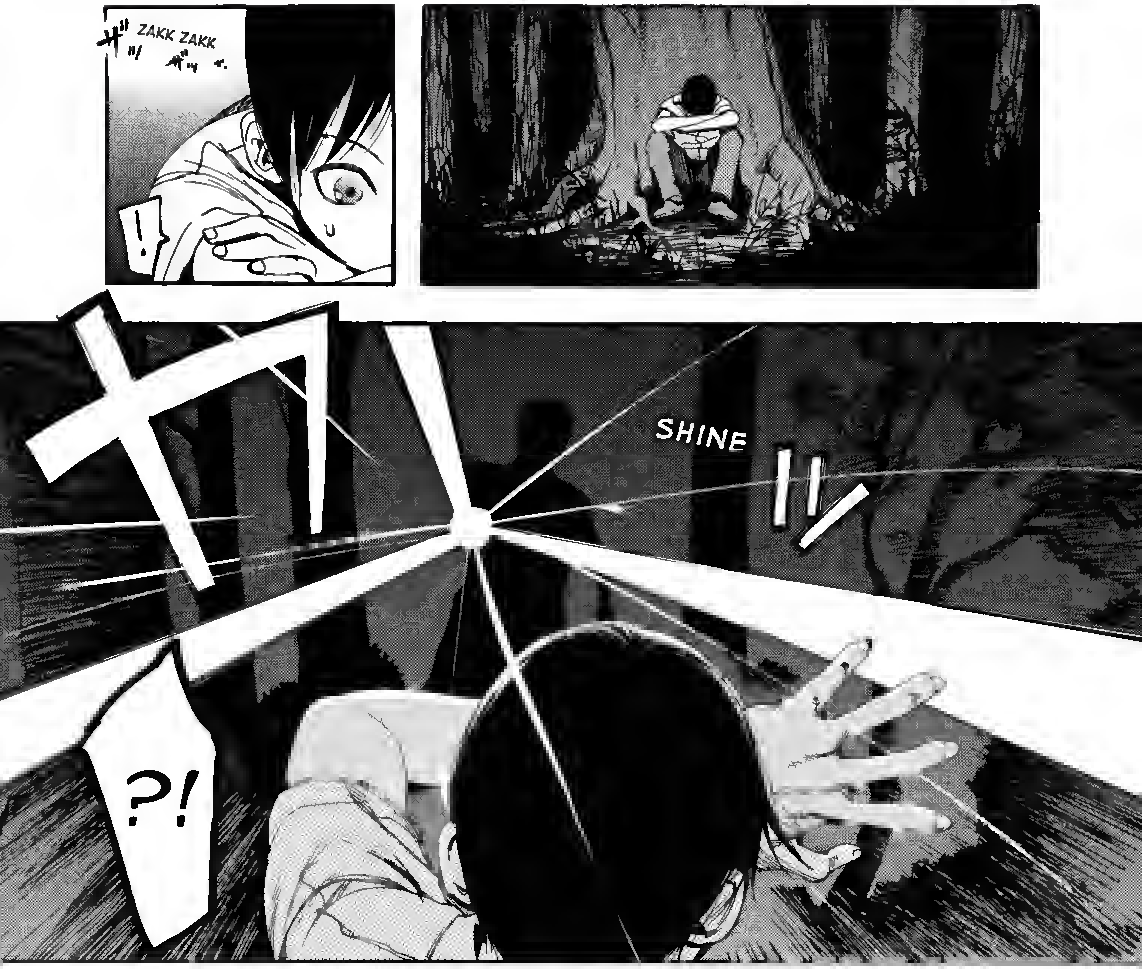
I-
I'M...
I'M...
WHERE ARE YOU RIGHT NOW, KEI?
Freak
...
I'M...
UH
...
AH
...
KEI.
...
WELL...
UH-
UH...
PTT

YOU CAN TRUST ME.

WHERE WE CAUGHT THAT BEETLE...!

BY THE TREE ...

I'LL BE RIGHT THERE!


ZAKK ZAKK
!
SHINE
?!

FOUND YA... HEH HEH ...
I KNEW I SHOULD FOLLOW MY GUT...

PLEASE...
PLEASE DON'T...
CLICK
Saitama Police
埼玉県警
HUH?
POP
ALL RIGHT, I WON'T.
I'LL TAKE CARE OF YOU MYSELF.
ROLL
IT'S NOT LIKE DEMI-HUMANS EAT PEOPLE.
BUT IF I CAPTURE YOU, MAYBE SHE'LL LOOK AT ME IN A NEW LIGHT...
?!
?
I'VE GOT A DAUGHTER.
SHE DOESN'T GIVE ME AN INCH OF RESPECT THESE DAYS.

AH ... UM ...
BE NICE, WILL YOU ...?
INCH
INCH
C'MON, DON'T RESIST...
WILL KILL YOUR DAUGH-TER IF YOU DO!
WELL, MY FRIEND RIGHT THERE ...
HUNH?!
DASH
AH!
SHIT!
WAIT !!

I SAID WAIT!
YOU'LL UNDERSTAND ONCE YOU'RE AN ADULT!
WHATEVER! THAT DOESN'T CONCERN ME!!
ONE SECOND, DO DEMI-HUMANS BECOME ADULTS?
THERE'S NO WAY YOU'RE CATCHING ME!!
YOU'RE NOT CATCHING ME!
GUNK
YOU'RE NOT...

PANT
PANT...
PANT
PANT
埼玉
THUDD
TO YOUR HUMAN MASTERS ...!
CLINK
YOU NEED TO LISTEN
GRIT
!

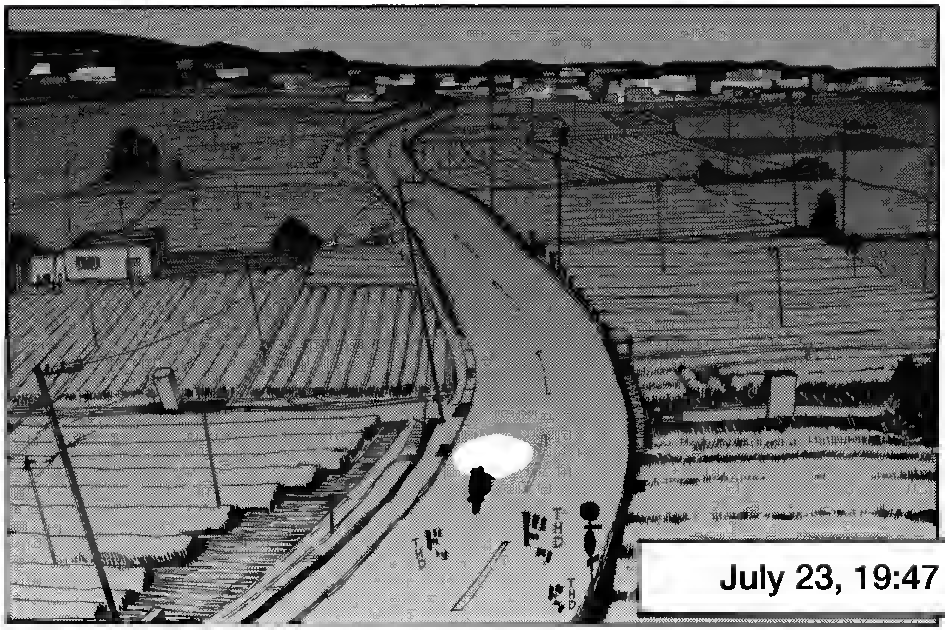
ウオ!?
ドカッ
THUNK

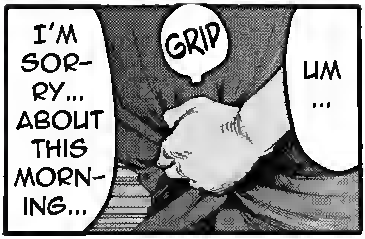
YO.
NO NAMES.
KA...
CAN YOU STAND?
THUD
SLIDE
WE'RE GONNA RUN!
AH... DEMI-HUMAN ON THE RUN...!
HE SEEMS TO HAVE A PART-NER!!
AH!
CLIK

THD
YOU'RE NOT CATCH-ING ME...
THD

YOU'RE NOT CATCHING ME...
THD
THD
THD
THD

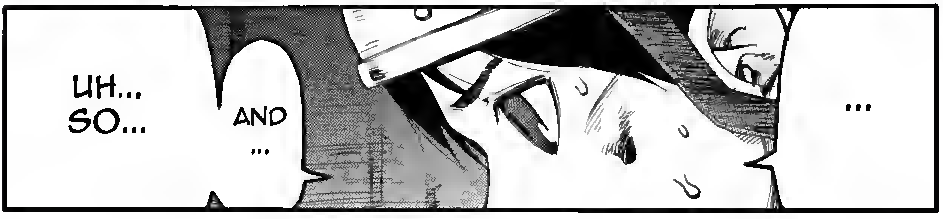
YOU'RE NOT...
?!
THUMP
KEI! DON'T STOP!
UH... KAY.
THD
THD


July 23, 19:47


I'M SOR-RY... ABOUT THIS MORN-ING...
GRIP
UM ...

DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.

IT'S OUR CHANCE TO GET SOME DISTANCE ON THE BACK-STREETS!
I DOUBT THE COPS ARE OUT YET.
KAI ...


UH... SO...
AND ...
...

I GUESS
I'M NOT HUMAN?
I REALLY...
...
DON'T CARE ABOUT STUFF LIKE THAT.

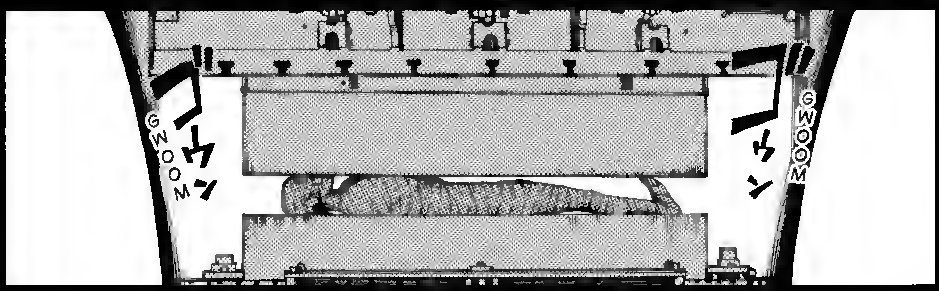
WHAT ARE DEMI-HUMANS ...?
DEMI-HUMANS ...
EVERY NATION STILL WANTS TO KNOW THE TRUTH BEHIND THEM.
NO COUNTRY IN THE WORLD COULD ANSWER THAT.
NATION...?
...
WE MUST SECURE KEI NAGAI AT ANY COST.
THIS SITUATION IS FAR MORE SERIOUS THAN YOU THINK...
GULP
BEFORE ANOTHER NATION GRABS HIM FIRST.

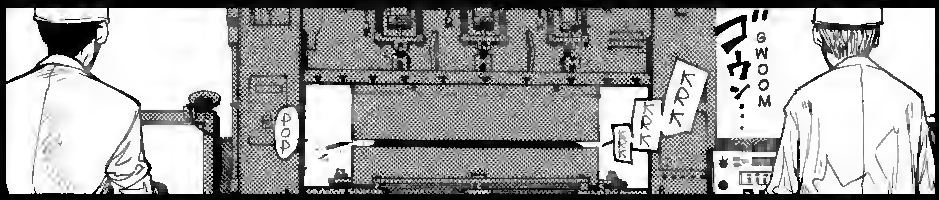
PUT UP CHECK-POINTS! ON BACK STREETS, TOO!
DO ANY-THING IT TAKES TO GET HIM!
DOUBLE... NO, TRIPLE THE NUMBER OF MEN!
THD
Personal information regarding suspected Demi-human
...A NEW DEMI-HUMAN.
BTT
KEI NAGAI ...

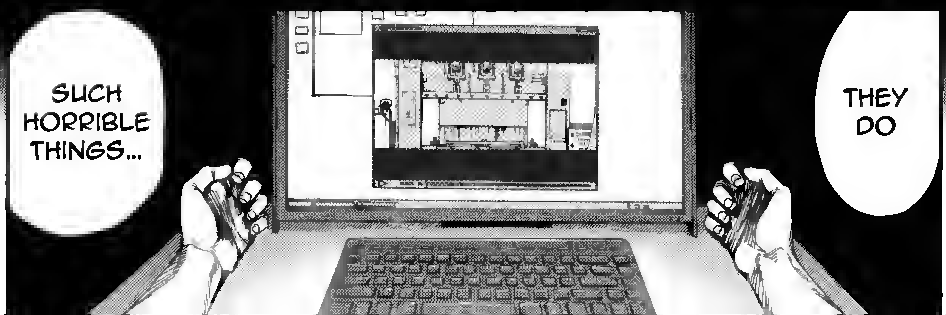
WE'RE NOT LET-TING YOU GET AWAY...
THD
Checkpoint
THD
THD
Assumed to be a Demi-human
Newsflash! Demi-human discovered

THD...
File:01 End

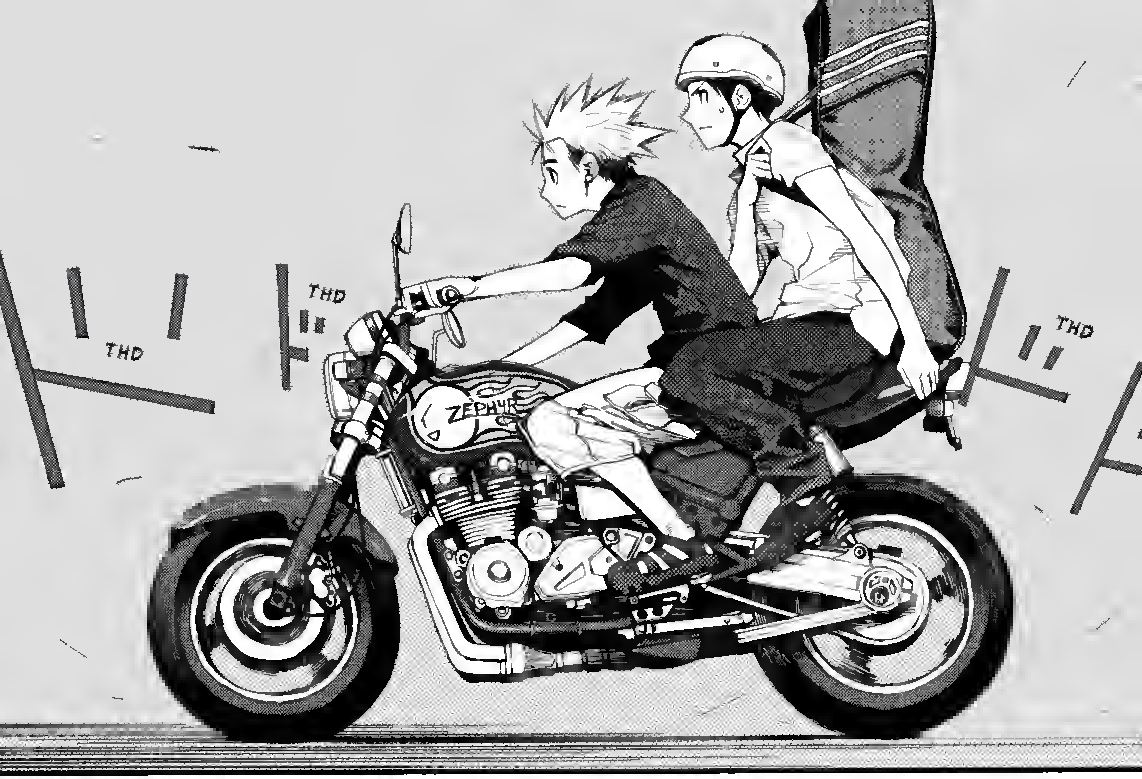
GWOOM
GWOOM
GWOOM
Date and Time Unknown


GWOOM
GWOOM


GWOOM
GWOOM
POP

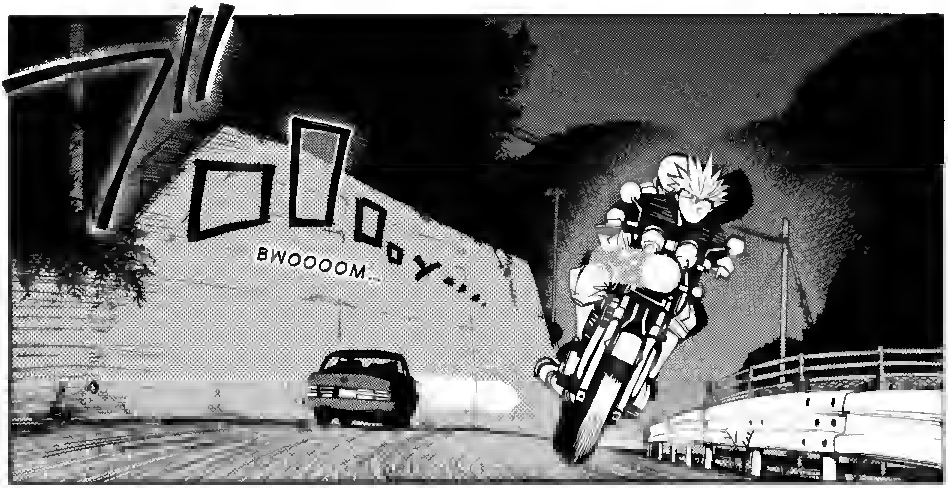

SUCH HORRIBLE THINGS...
THEY DO

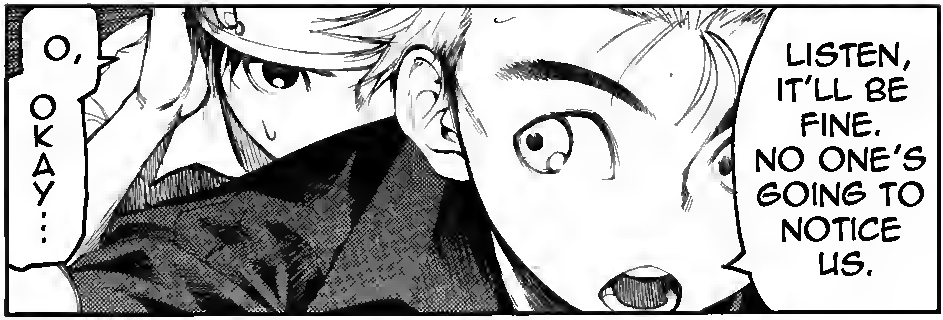
File 02: Event on the First Night


THD
THD
THD
ZEPHYR

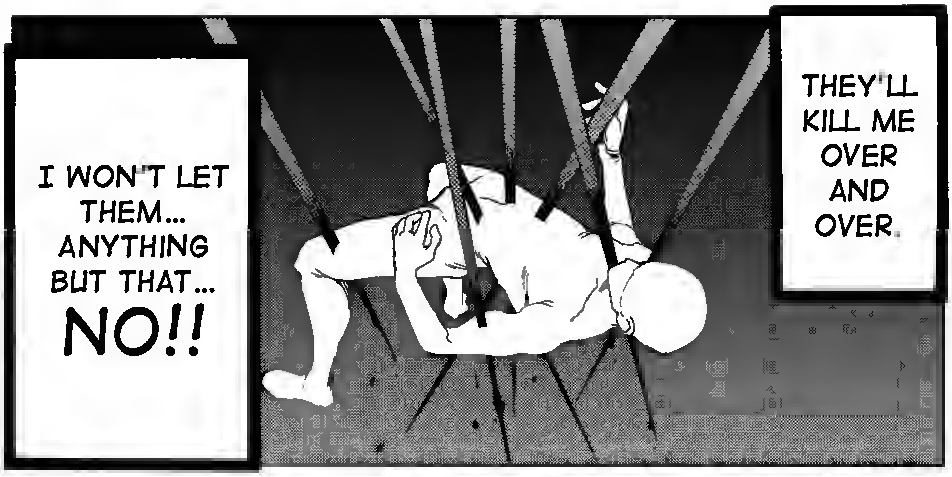
THUMP
THUMP
THUMP
THUMP

!!
10
CRASH

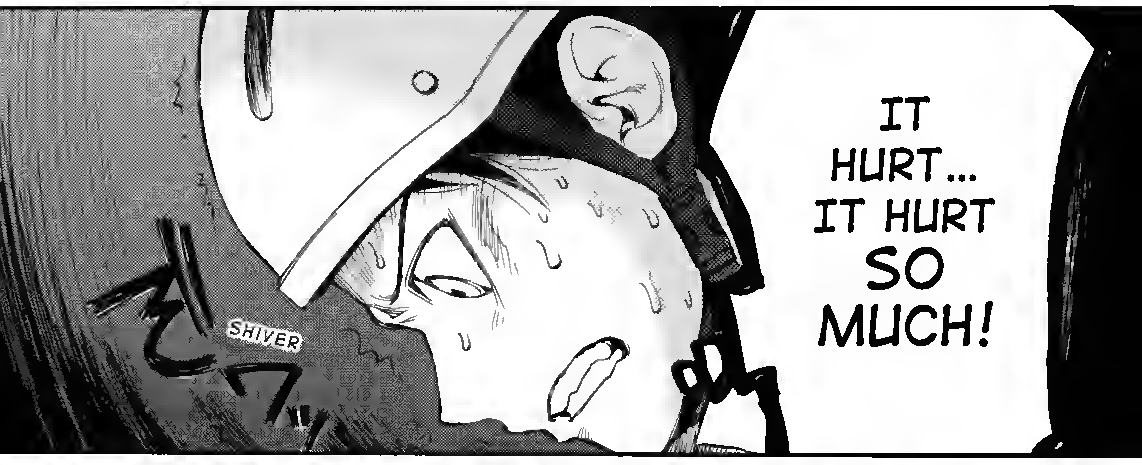

BWOOOOM...

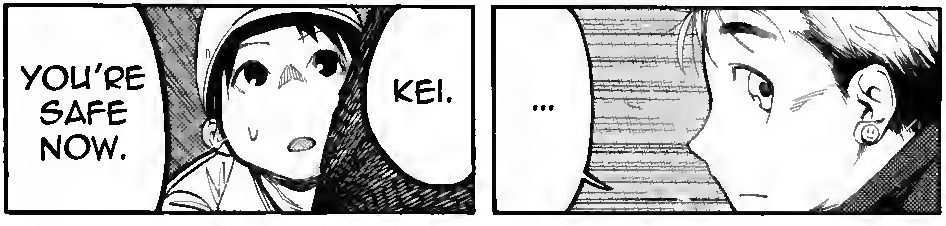

LISTEN, IT'LL BE FINE. NO ONE'S GOING TO NOTICE US.
O, OKAY...

...HOW DID THINGS END UP LIKE THIS...?
WELL... BECAUSE I'M A DEMI-HUMAN, DUH.
WHAT'LL HAPPEN IF THEY CATCH ME?
THEY'D PROBABLY START... BY SEEING IF I'M "REALLY IMMORTAL."

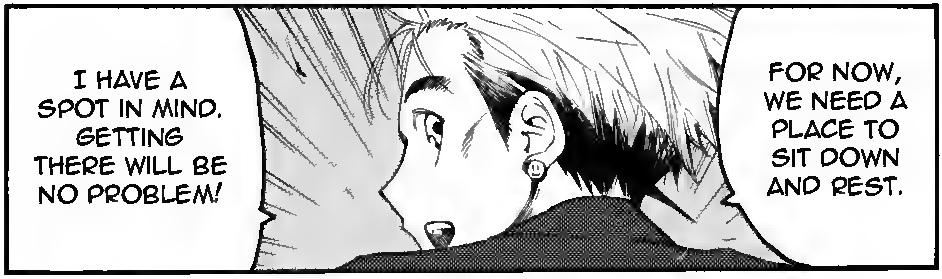

I WON'T LET THEM... ANYTHING BUT THAT... NO!!
THEY'LL KILL ME OVER AND OVER.

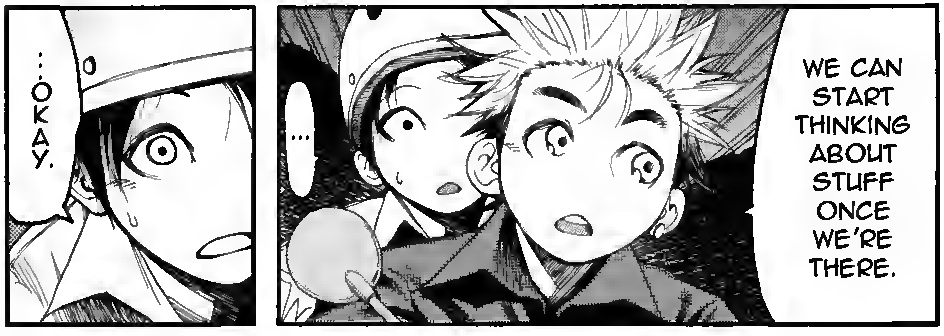
FOR A SPLIT SECOND... NO... LONGER...
...WHEN THAT TRUCK RAN ME OVER...


SHIVER
IT HURT... IT HURT SO MUCH!


YOU'RE SAFE NOW.
KEI.
...

WE'VE GONE PRETTY FAR ON THIS MOUNTAIN ROAD... WE'RE OUT OF THE PREFECTURE.
MOST OF THE PUBLIC PROBABLY HASN'T HEARD THE NEWS, EITHER.
THE POLICE CAN'T MOVE OUT THAT FAST.
YOU'LL BE SAFE TONIGHT FOR SURE.


FOR NOW, WE NEED A PLACE TO SIT DOWN AND REST.
I HAVE A SPOT IN MIND. GETTING THERE WILL BE NO PROBLEM!


...OKAY.
...
WE CAN START THINKING ABOUT STUFF ONCE WE'RE THERE.

WAIT, SO HOW MANY DEMI-HUMANS ARE OUT THERE, ANYWAY?
HUH? UM...
47, I THINK ...?
BWOOOO
BWOOOO
47? THAT MANY?
THEY'RE NOT RARE AT ALL!
HEH... HEH...
...

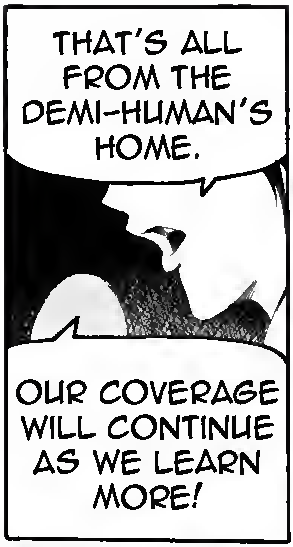
T... THANKS, KAI...
I THINK I FEEL BETTER.
WELL, GOOD.
MAYBE SOCIETY *HASN'T* GONE TOO CRAZY OVER THIS...
BUT... MAYBE HE'S RIGHT.
HE'S AS WEIRD AS ALWAYS...
NO... I'LL THINK ABOUT THIS LATER...
MAYBE I COULD EVEN MANAGE TO GET AWAY?
July 24, 00:02

WE'RE HERE IN FRONT OF THE DEMI-HUMAN'S HOME!
HEY, WATCH IT!
MOVE IT!
BUSTLE
CHATTER
BUSTLE
Nikon

A BIG UPROAR HAS COME TO THIS LITTLE TOWN!
A THIRD DEMI-HUMAN HAS BEEN DISCOVERED IN JAPAN... AND IT IS ON THE RUN!

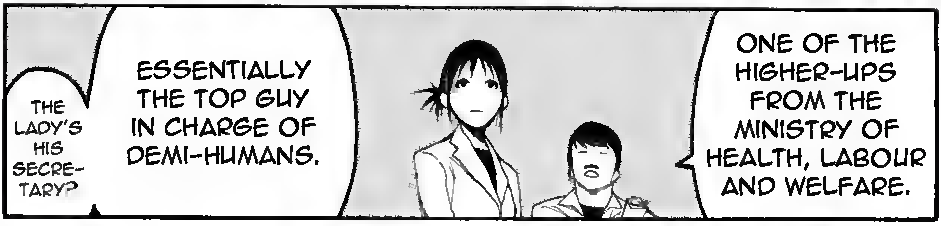
BUT THERE WERE ALWAYS SOME THINGS ABOUT HIM THAT DIDN'T SEEM HUMAN...
MAN, I WAS SHOCKED! ONE OF MY CLASSMATES, A DEMI-HUMAN...?

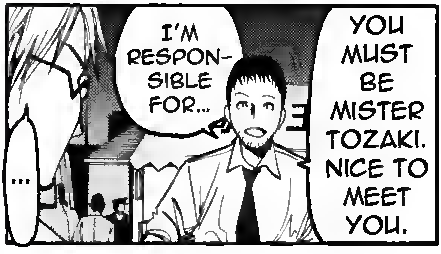
THE POLICE SAY,
THE DEMI-HUMAN AND A CONSPIRATOR MAY ALREADY BE IN ANOTHER PREFECTURE.
埼玉
SAITAMA
THEY WILL WORK WITH POLICE FROM OTHER PREFECTURES TO BEGIN A FULL-FLEDGED SEARCH OPERATION TOMORROW MORNING.


THAT'S ALL FROM THE DEMI-HUMAN'S HOME.
OUR COVERAGE WILL CONTINUE AS WE LEARN MORE!

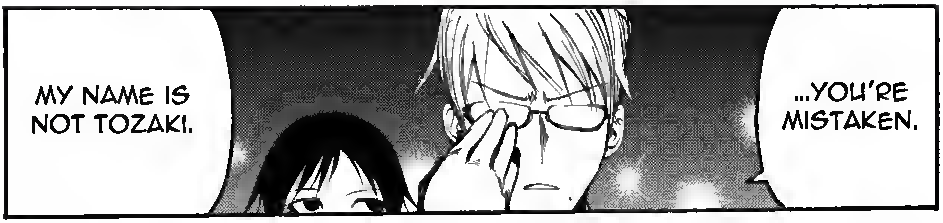
GREAT!

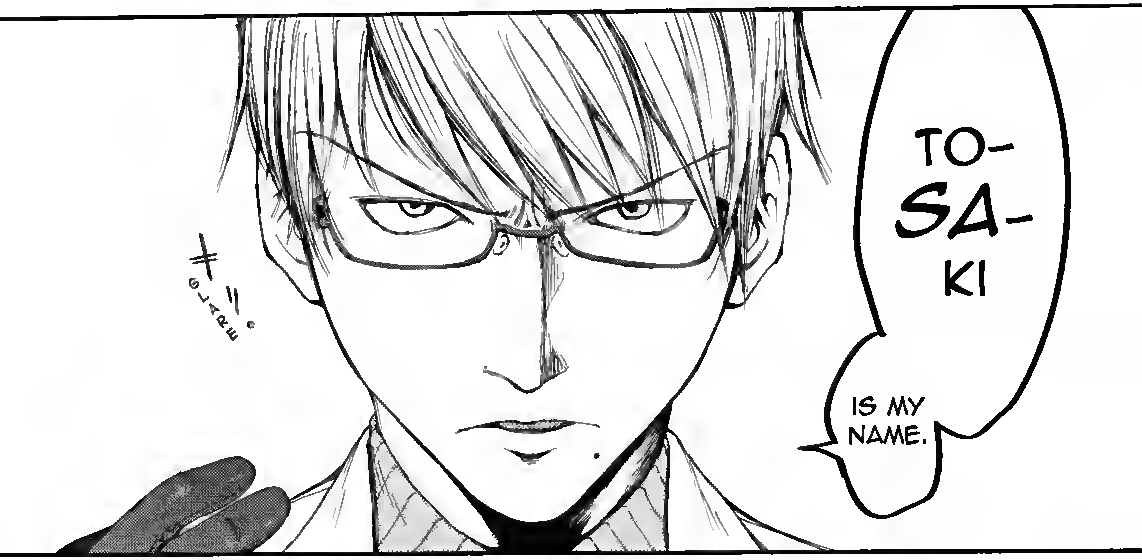
WHO'S THAT ...?

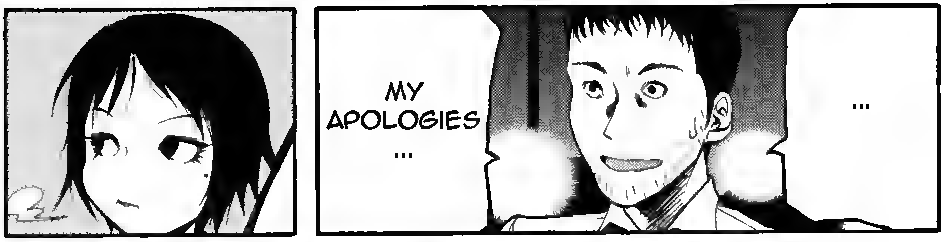

THE LADY'S HIS SECRETARY?
ESSENTIALLY THE TOP GUY IN CHARGE OF DEMI-HUMANS.
ONE OF THE HIGHER-UPS FROM THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH, LABOUR AND WELFARE.

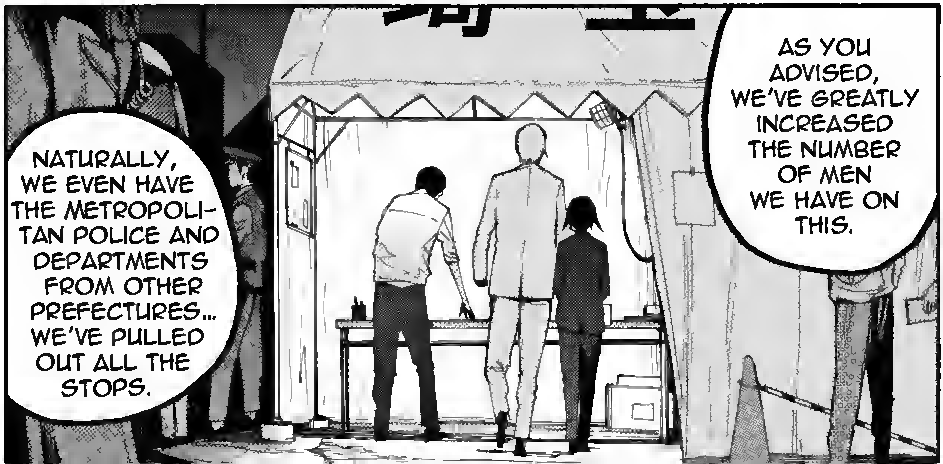

...
I'M RESPONSIBLE FOR...
YOU MUST BE MISTER TOZAKI. NICE TO MEET YOU.

NOT BAD!
HANDSOME... FAST-TRACK BUREAUCRAT...

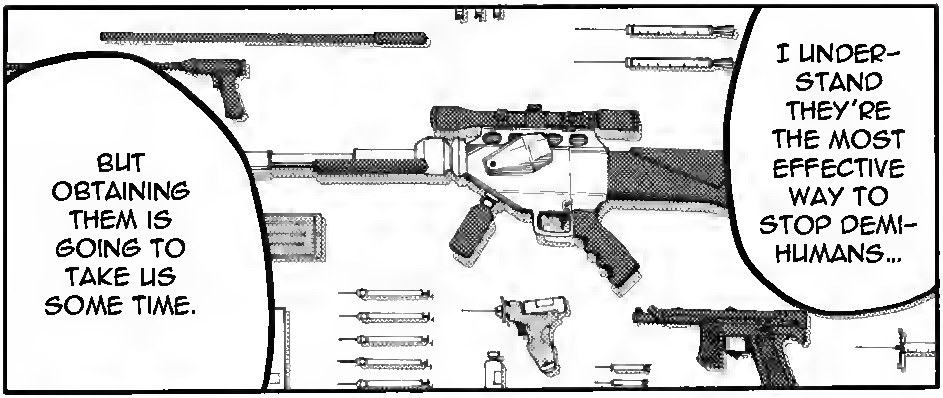

MY NAME IS NOT TOZAKI.
...YOU'RE MISTAKEN.

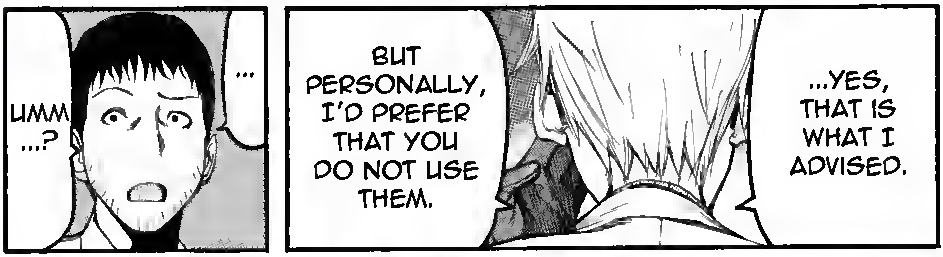

TO-
SA-
KI
IS MY NAME.

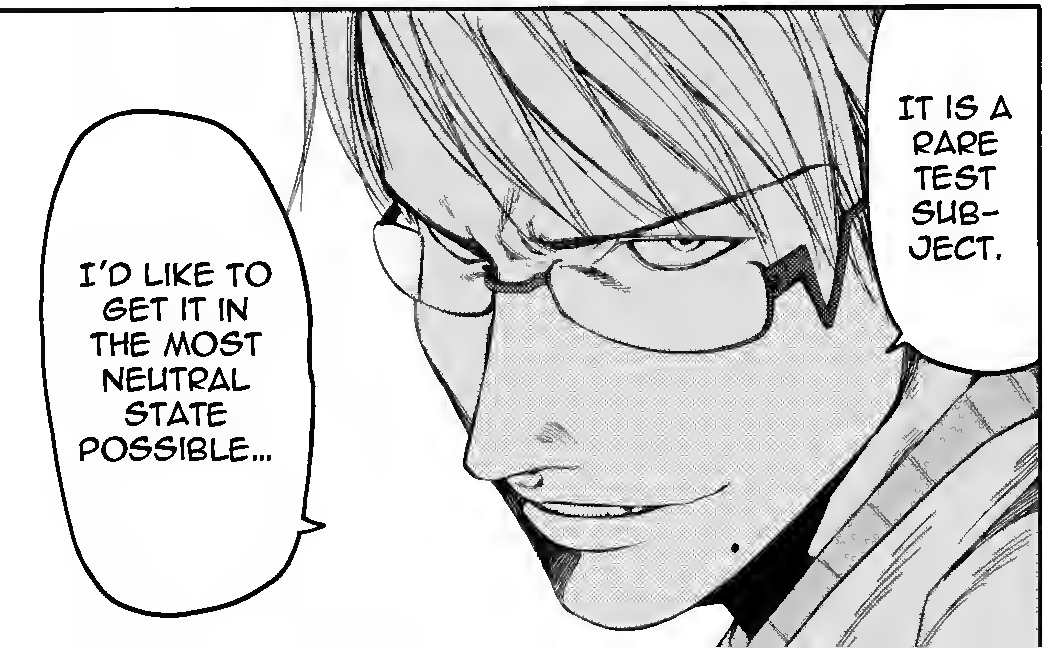

MY APOLOGIES ...
...


AS YOU ADVISED, WE'VE GREATLY INCREASED THE NUMBER OF MEN WE HAVE ON THIS.
NATURALLY, WE EVEN HAVE THE METROPOLITAN POLICE AND DEPARTMENTS FROM OTHER PREFECTURES... WE'VE PULLED OUT ALL THE STOPS.

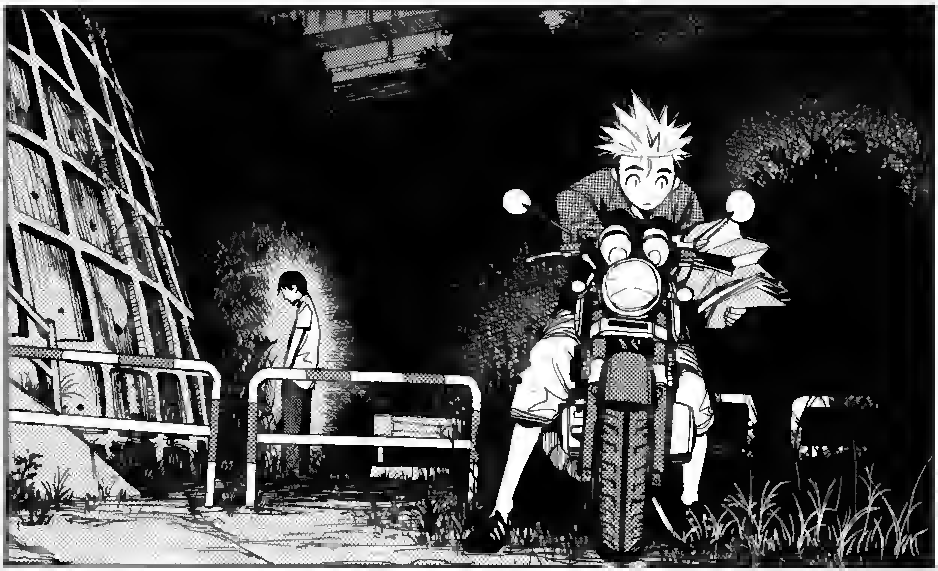
AT THIS RATE,
ONCE IT'S BRIGHT OUT, WE'LL FIND IT IN NO TIME.
IS THAT SO ...
RUSTLE
THAT MANY?
POP
CLATTER
CLATTER
...
SST
AH— THANKS, I'M FINE.
YOU ADVISED US ON ONE OTHER MATTER...
NON-LETHAL TRAN-QUILIZ-ERS!


I UNDERSTAND THEY'RE THE MOST EFFECTIVE WAY TO STOP DEMI-HUMANS...
BUT OBTAINING THEM IS GOING TO TAKE US SOME TIME.


...YES, THAT IS WHAT I ADVISED.
BUT PERSONALLY, I'D PREFER THAT YOU DO NOT USE THEM.
...
UMM ...?


IT IS A RARE TEST SUBJECT.
I'D LIKE TO GET IT IN THE MOST NEUTRAL STATE POSSIBLE...

ACT ACCORD-INGLY...
I'LL...
BWOOOOOM
IT'S BAD TIMING, BUT...
I KNOW
HM ?
KAI ...
...
I'LL TURN OFF.
AL-RIGHT.
I REALLY ...
NEED TO PEE...



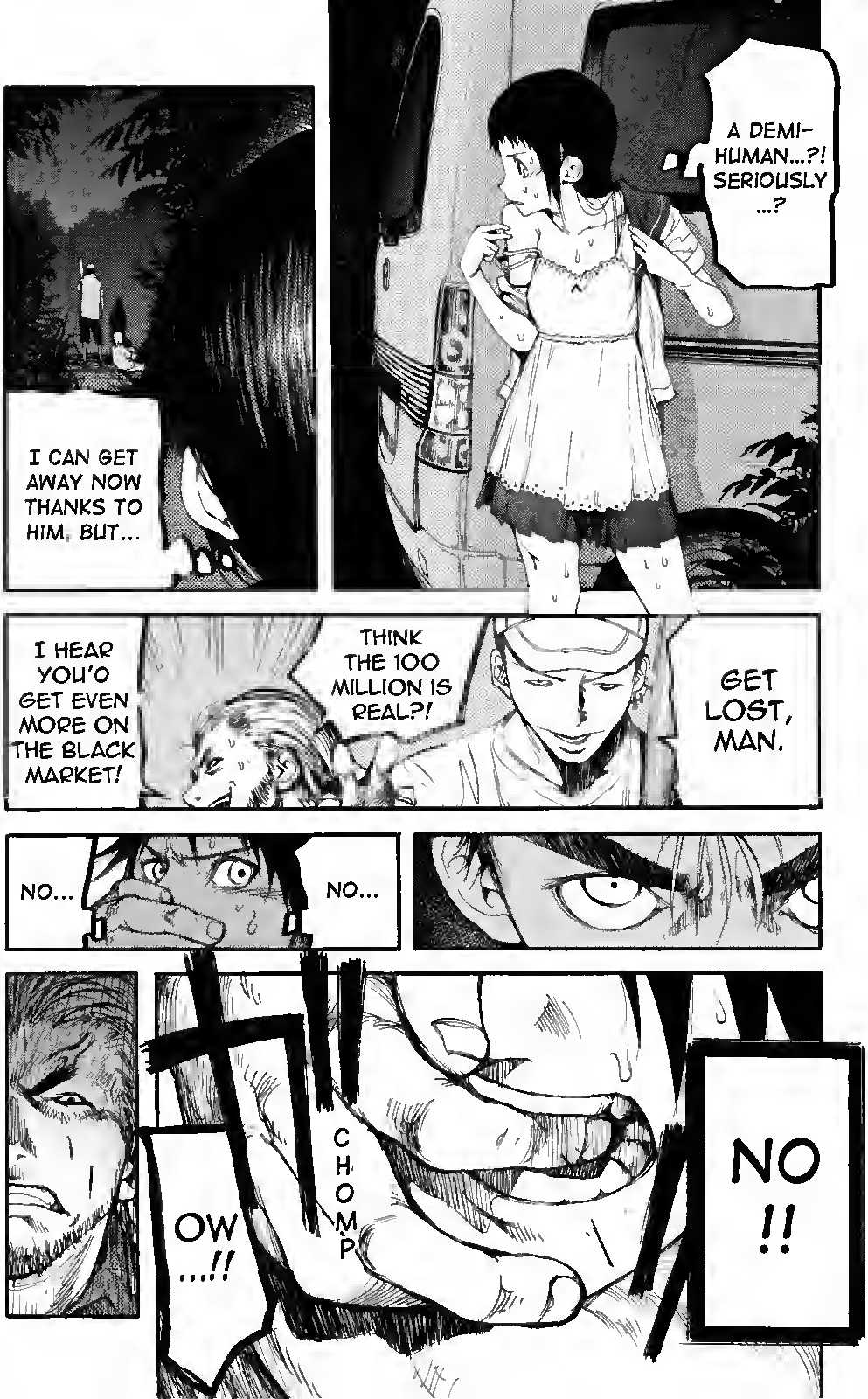
WELL, OF COURSE I DO. I LIVED A NORMAL LIFE UNTIL TODAY...
PSSSHHHH
I STILL PEE NORMALLY...

DO PEOPLE ONLY BECOME DEMI-HUMANS AFTER THEY DIE ONCE ...?
OR ARE THEY BORN LIKE THAT...

IF ONLY THAT TRUCK HADN'T RUN ME OVER THEN...
... WAIT ...

SWOOSH
GRMH!!
?!
KEI!!
SO?!

NO FUCKIN' WAY! THAT'S A HUNDRED MIL!!
NGGG
F'REAL?!
IT'S DEFINITELY THE DEMI-HUMAN!
YOU THAT "CONSPIRATOR"? WELL, WE'LL BE TAKING YOUR DEMI-HUMAN!
I DIDN'T BELIEVE IT AT FIRST!
WHERE THE HELL DID YOU TWO CRAWL OUT FROM?!
YEAH, RIGHT! NOT SO FAST!!
...
WHERE? WHO CARES!

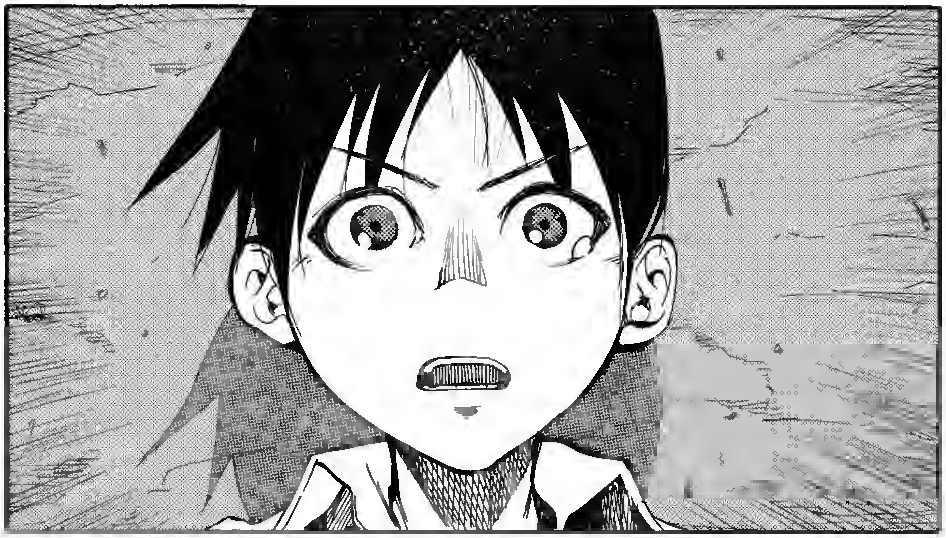

I CAN GET AWAY NOW THANKS TO HIM. BUT...
A DEMI-HUMAN...?! SERIOUSLY ...?
I HEAR YOU'O GET EVEN MORE ON THE BLACK MARKET!
THINK THE 100 MILLION IS REAL?!
GET LOST, MAN.
NO...
NO...
NO !!
CHOMP
OW ...!!

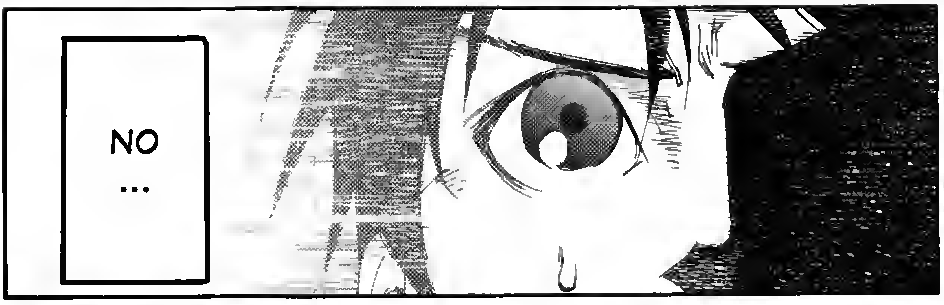
YOU PIECE OF SHIT !!
GRASP
KEI !!

WHY ...
UNG...
GUH...
I NEVER DID ANYTHING WRONG...
WHY IS THIS HAPPENING TO ME?
WELL, LET'S FIND OUT!
WRING
YOU'RE IMMORTAL, RIGHT?
YOU...
SH...D...
ALL...
J...
ST...
DIE...

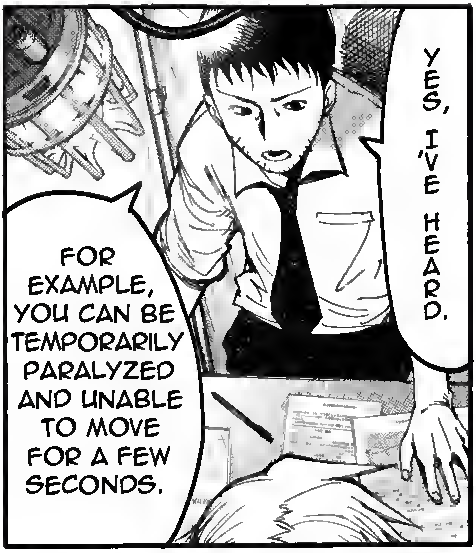
TWITCH
THUD
IS IT ...
DEAD?!
WHA?!
HUH ...
WHY ...
"Why" ...?

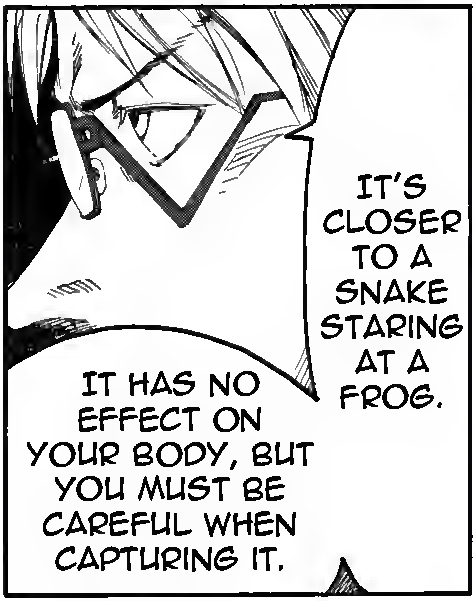
You want to know why ...?
パチ KRAK
パチ KRAK
It's be-cause...

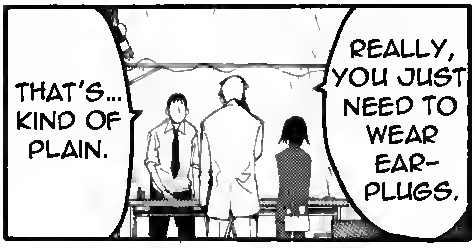

HEY !
I THINK IT
JUST DIED ON US!!

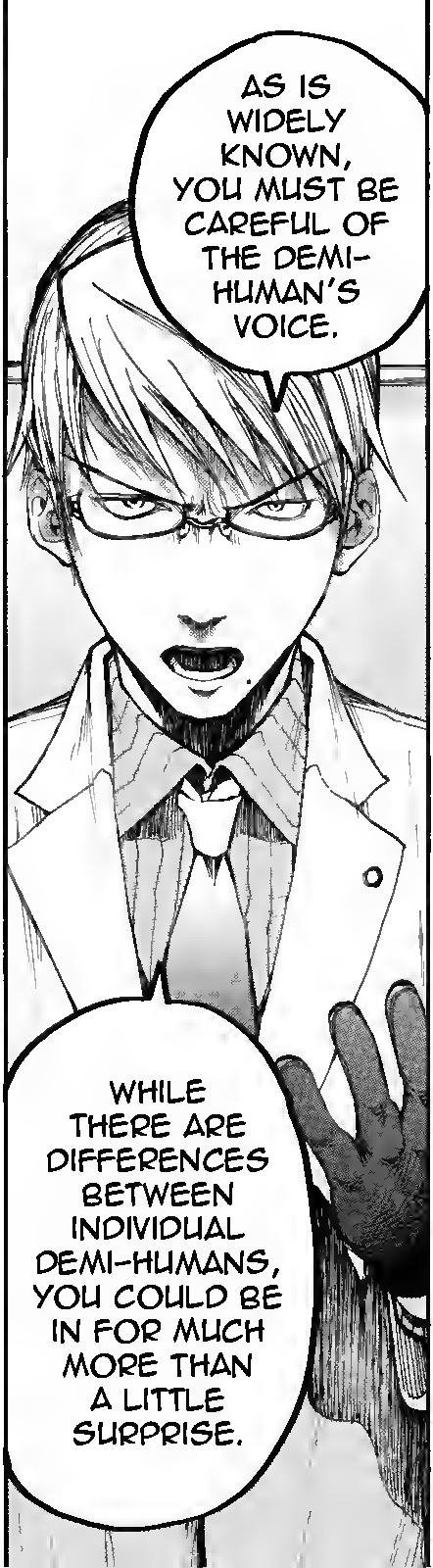

NO ...

I'M ...


YES, I'VE HEARD.
FOR EXAMPLE, YOU CAN BE TEMPORARILY PARALYZED AND UNABLE TO MOVE FOR A FEW SECONDS.


IT'S CLOSER TO A SNAKE STARING AT A FROG.
IT HAS NO EFFECT ON YOUR BODY, BUT YOU MUST BE CAREFUL WHEN CAPTURING IT.


REALLY, YOU JUST NEED TO WEAR EAR-PLUGS.
THAT'S... KIND OF PLAIN.


AS IS WIDELY KNOWN, YOU MUST BE CAREFUL OF THE DEMI-HUMAN'S VOICE.
WHILE THERE ARE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN INDIVIDUAL DEMI-HUMANS, YOU COULD BE IN FOR MUCH MORE THAN A LITTLE SURPRISE.

BUT... STILL, IT'S A STRANGE PHENOMENON.
DO THEY KNOW WHY IT HAPPENS?
THAT IS BEING RE-SEARCHED.
AS SUCH, I CANNOT
AH
AH
AH

ああああああああ

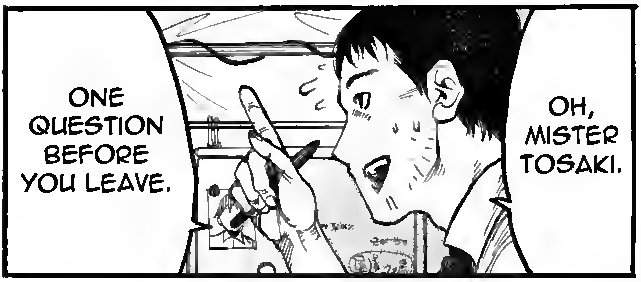
ｷｴｴｴｴｴｴｴｴ

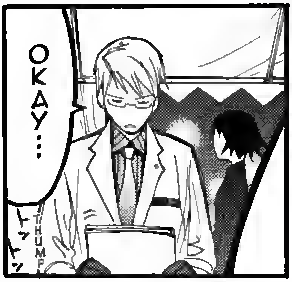
HUH...
...HUH?!
HUH...?
WON'T MOVE ...
MY BODY ...
PANT
PANT

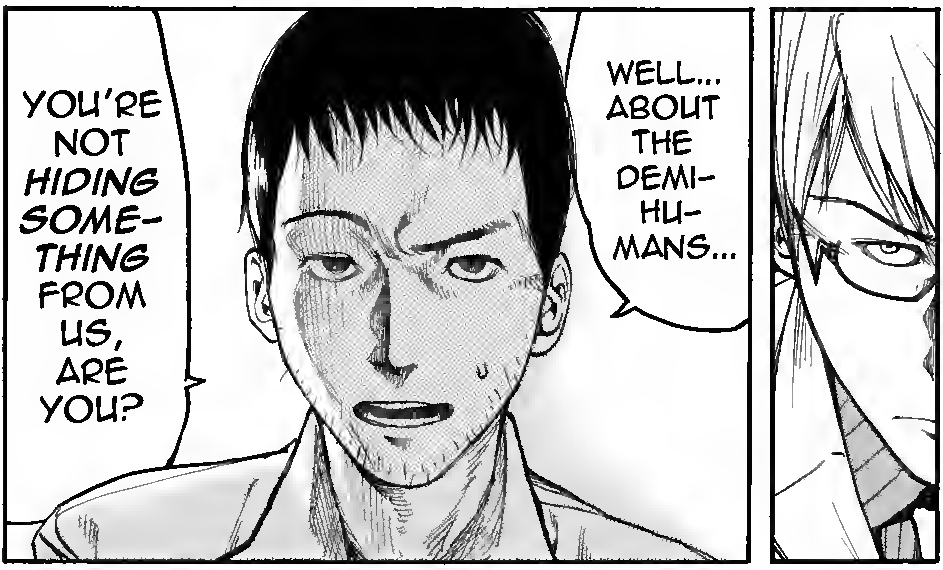
SO THAT IS HOW THIS WORKS ...!
PANT
IT'S THE SAME AS WHEN I LEFT SCHOOL ...
PANT
ASS-HOLE!
KRAK
...
LET'S RUN!!
THUD
KAI! CAN YOU STAND?!
OKAY.
...

THDDDD
EY!!
JERK
AHH!
JERK
OTHER THAN THE PUNCH...
ARE YOU... OKAY?
...
WHAT... JUST HAPPENED...?
IT'S A HUN-DRED MILL!!
HUH? YEAH!
ALL THAT DOES IS STOP US?! LET'S CHASE 'EM!!

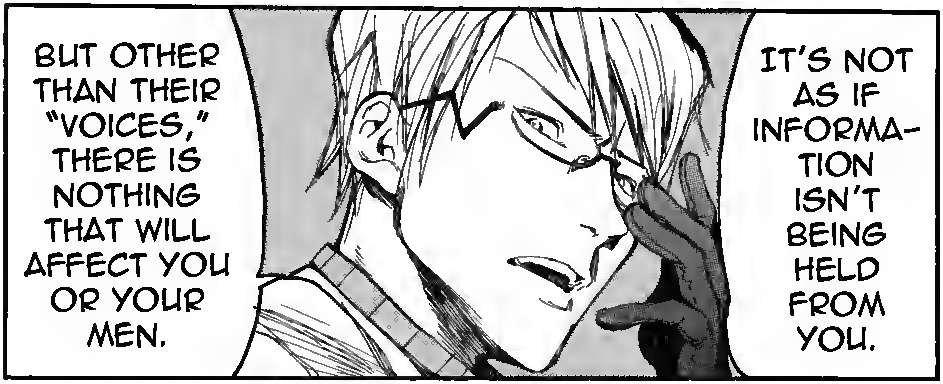
IT SEEMS LIKE THEY'RE DONE WITH THEIR INTERVIEWS.
MISTER TOZA... TOSAKI,
IF THERE'S ANYTHING YOU'D LIKE TO SPEAK TO THE FAMILY ABOUT...


ONE QUESTION BEFORE YOU LEAVE.
OH, MISTER TOSAKI.

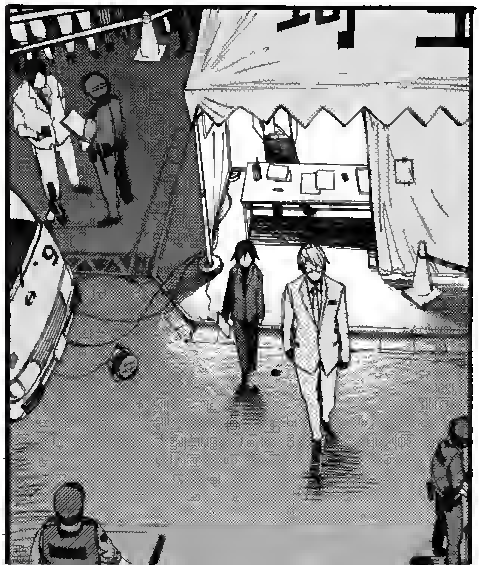

OKAY...
THUMP
THUMP

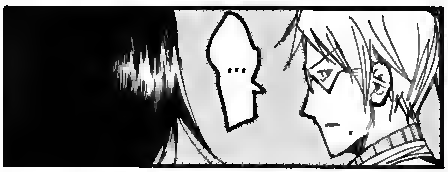

YOU'RE NOT *HIDING SOME-THING* FROM US, ARE YOU?
WELL... ABOUT THE DEMI-HU-MANS...

EVERY-ONE SAYS THE BRASS HIDES STUFF ...!
WELL, YOU KNOW!
...


BUT OTHER THAN THEIR "VOICES," THERE IS NOTHING THAT WILL AFFECT YOU OR YOUR MEN.
IT'S NOT AS IF INFORMA-TION ISN'T BEING HELD FROM YOU.

THAT MUCH IS CERTAIN.
DEMI-HUMANS ARE NOT DANGER-OUS.

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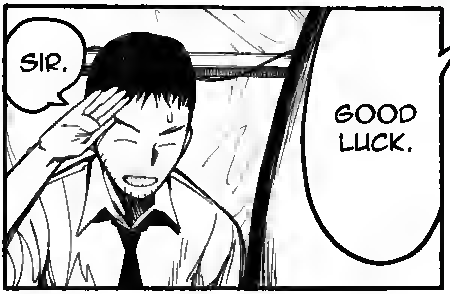
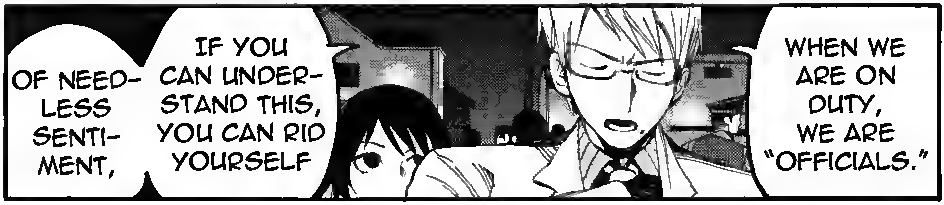
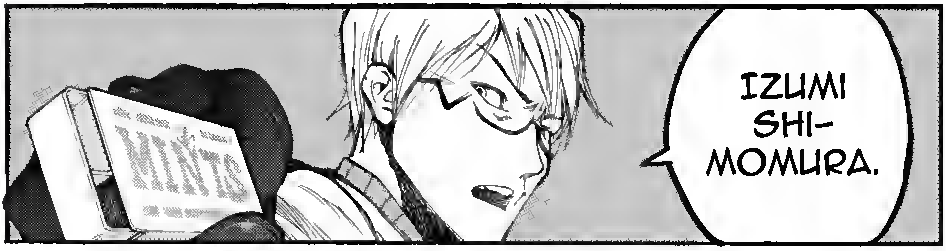
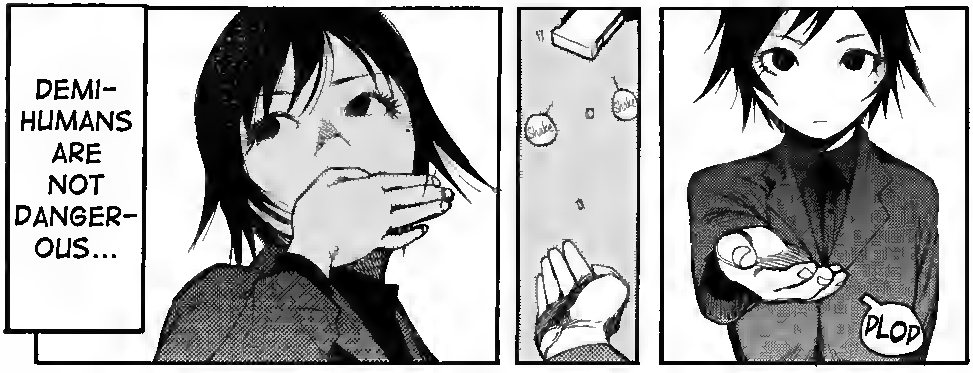

SIR.
GOOD LUCK.

WE ARE NOT HUMANS.


WHEN WE ARE ON DUTY, WE ARE "OFFICIALS."
IF YOU CAN UNDERSTAND THIS, YOU CAN RID YOURSELF OF NEEDLESS SENTIMENT,


IZUMI SHIMOMURA.


DEMI-HUMANS ARE NOT DANGEROUS...
PLOP

?
AS LONG AS KEI NAGAI
IS NOT A VARIANT, THAT IS.
HUNH?!

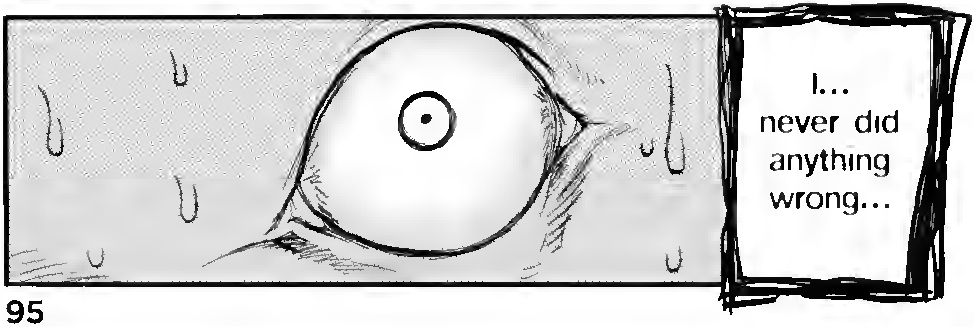
WHAT'S WRONG? ARE THEY COMING AFTER US?
HM ...?
ER ...
NO.
BRRRRMMM
SORRY, KEI.
MMMMM
I DIDN'T THINK SOMETHING LIKE THIS WOULD HAPPEN SO SUDDENLY.
CLANG CLANG
CLANG CLANG
!
WHAT? NO ...
ANYWAY, YOUR FACE...
CLANG CLANG
TRAIN.

GWOOM
THAT WAS LUCKY.
SHIT, AND A TRAIN'S COMING! AAAGH !!
...
TRACKS?!
GAH ...

STOMP
!!
KRAK
YEAH, 'COURSE WE ARE! IT'S A HUNDRED MILL!
WE GOING? WE DOING THIS?!
HUH?
WHY'D YOU STOP?
カーン CLANG
カン CLANG
カン CLANG
カーン CLANG
SKRR

カン
CLANG
カーン
CLANG
カン
CLANG
IT WON'T MOVE ...
NO ...
THE CAR IT STAL-LED ...?!
カン
CLANG
カーン
CLANG
MY BODY.
!!!

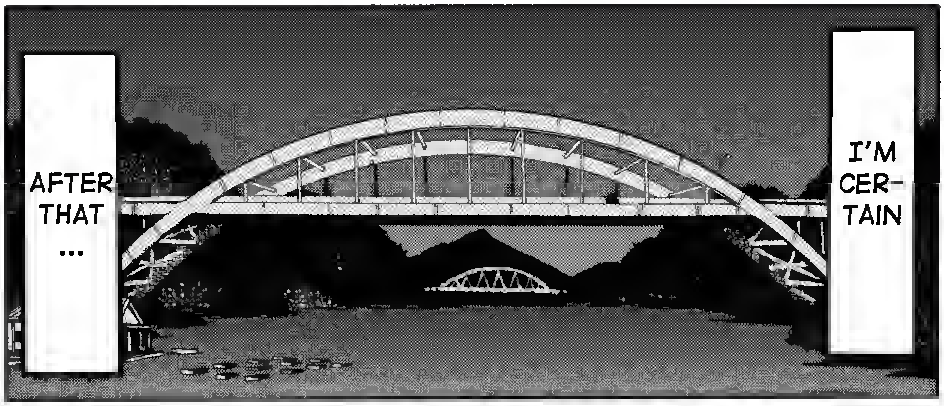
Just ...
You... should all...
Die ...


I... never did anything wrong...

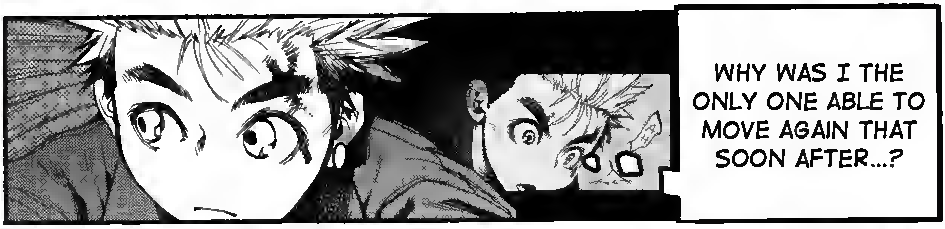
1
JR
PF
SF

THUD

ズン
HM?
... WHAT WAS THAT?
WHO KNOWS, BUT I THINK WE SHOOK THEM OFF.


AFTER THAT ...
I'M CER-TAIN

A DEMI-HUMAN'S VOICE CAN STOP PEOPLE FROM MOVING...


WHY WAS I THE ONLY ONE ABLE TO MOVE AGAIN THAT SOON AFTER...?

MAY-BE
THERE'S SOME-THING ELSE ...?

THERE'S MORE TO THE DEMI-HUMANS ...
Hm ...?
what...
was... that...?
File:02 End

I MUST KEEP...
002
カチ TAP
June 16, 03:39
THIS FROM CONTINUING
カチ TAP
002
カチ TAP
カチッ!!

File:03

File 03: Escape and Threat

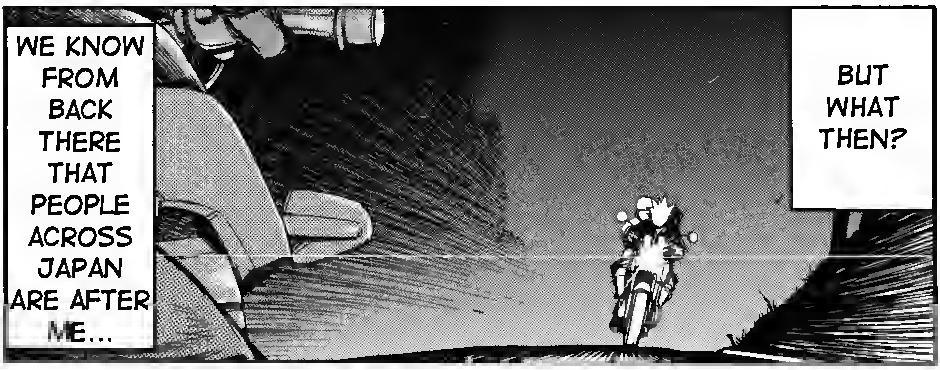
TAP
TAP
TAP
…

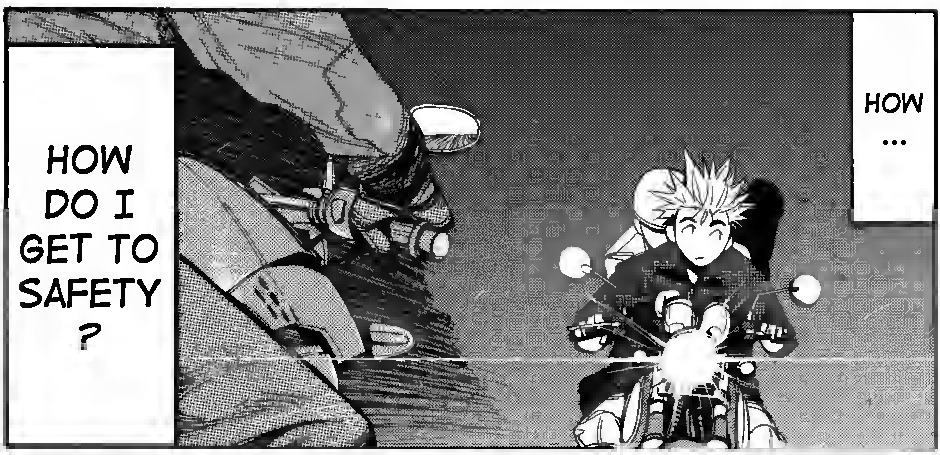
#002
田中
Tanaka
Weight 66㎏ 145 ㎏
Hair Color BLACK
Ethnicity Asian
Database address
-/A/jp/8473581/hom

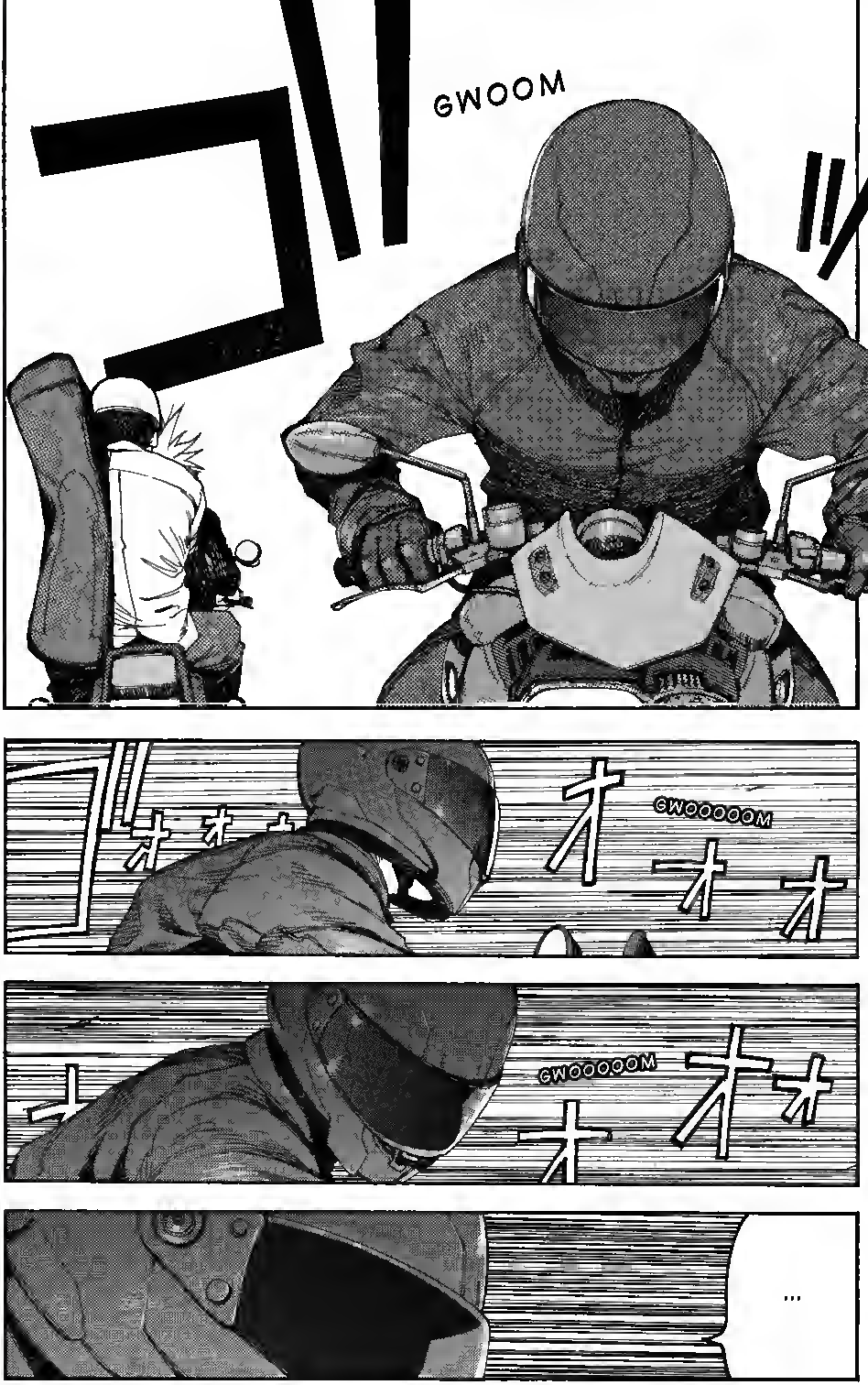
T-H-D
T-H-D
T-H-D
July 24, 03:46
AGH ...
DOD
UGH.
THE MEDIA HAS REPORTED ON MY APPEAR-ANCE... THE SUN COMING OUT IS BAD NEWS.
IT'S ALMOST MORN-ING...

I HATE THE SUN.
SO SELF-CENTERED... ALWAYS LOOKING DOWN ON US...
BUT IF WE KEEP GOING,
WE CAN MAKE IT TO THE HIDEOUT AS LONG AS WE GET TO THE MOUN-TAINS.
A HIDEOUT... SOUNDS LIKE AN ABANDONED PLACE IN THE MOUN-TAINS.
KAI MUST KNOW ABOUT PLACES LIKE THAT BECAUSE HE'S ALWAYS RIDING HIS BIKE.
THD
THD

WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO RELAX THERE...
FOR NOW ...


WE KNOW FROM BACK THERE THAT PEOPLE ACROSS JAPAN ARE AFTER ME...
BUT WHAT THEN?

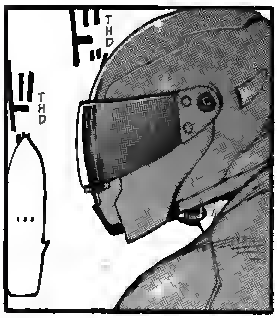

HOW DO I GET TO SAFETY ?
HOW ...


GWOOM
GWOOOOOM
GWOOOOOM
...

SKGRRRR
SKGRRRR

...HE STOP-PED ...
WHAT?

!


THD
THD
...

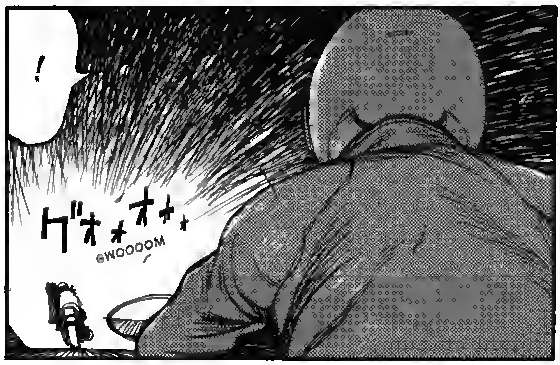
POP

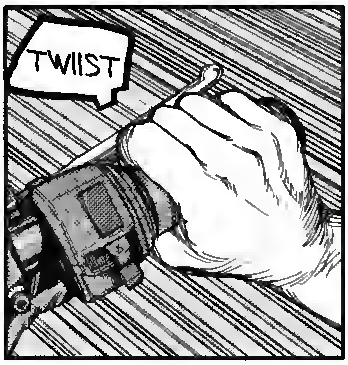
THD
THD
THD

HE'S COM-ING!

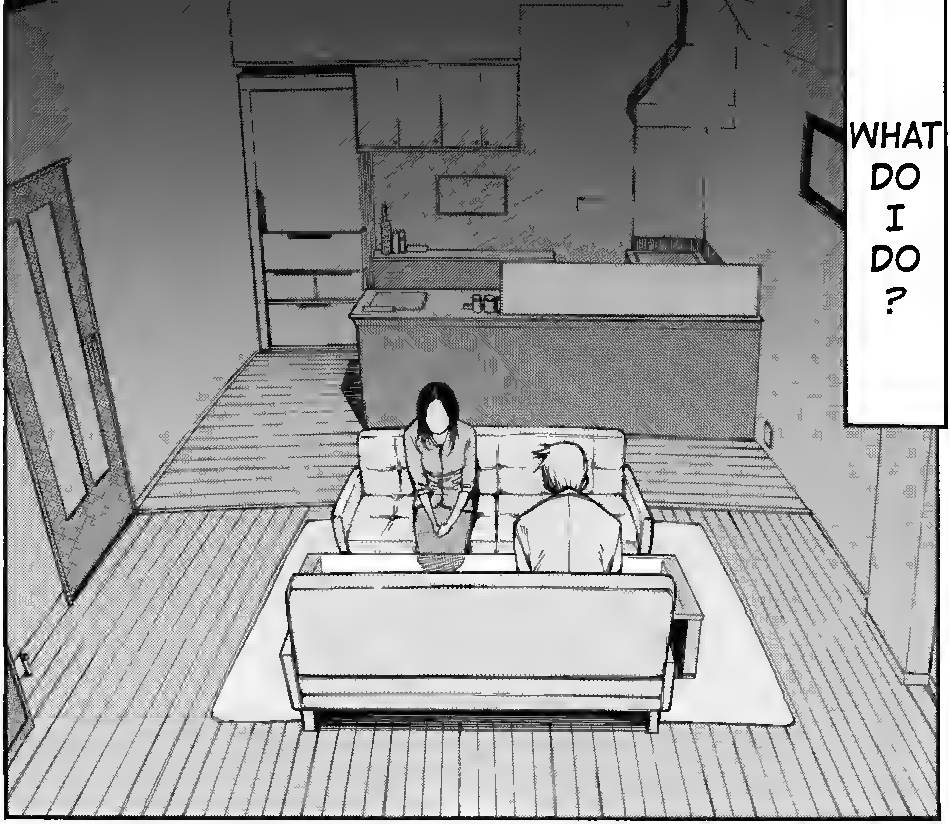
BWOOM

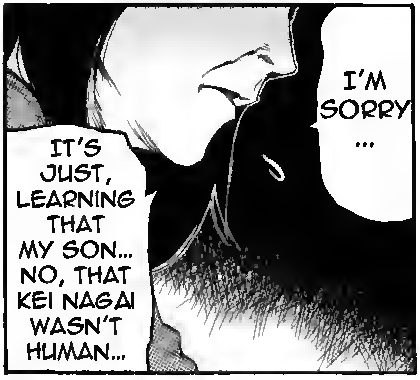
HMPH.

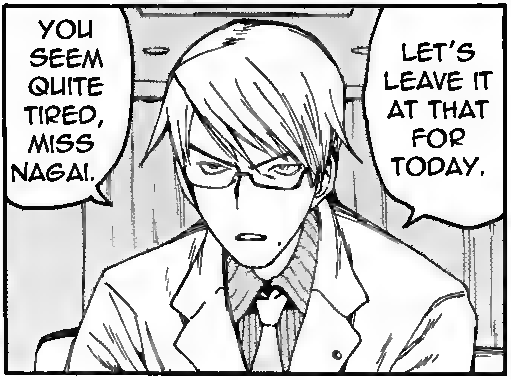

!
ゴォォォォ
GWOOOOM

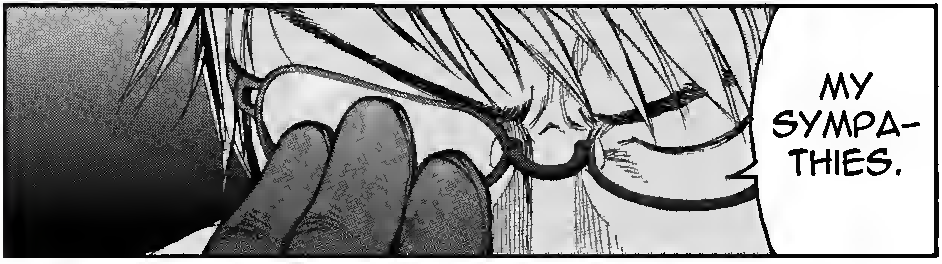

TWIIST

SO I WAS RIGHT... IT'S THEM.
GWOOOOM
THEY SPED UP...
THAT "CONSPIRATOR" IS A KID, TOO!
TWO RIDERS. CATCHING UP SHOULD BE EASY...
I CAN CAPTURE IT...
I CAN DO THIS ALONE ...!
I'M NOT AFTER A HUMAN... IT'S A DEMI-HUMAN...
WHAT SHOULD I DO WHEN I REACH THEM...
OKAY,

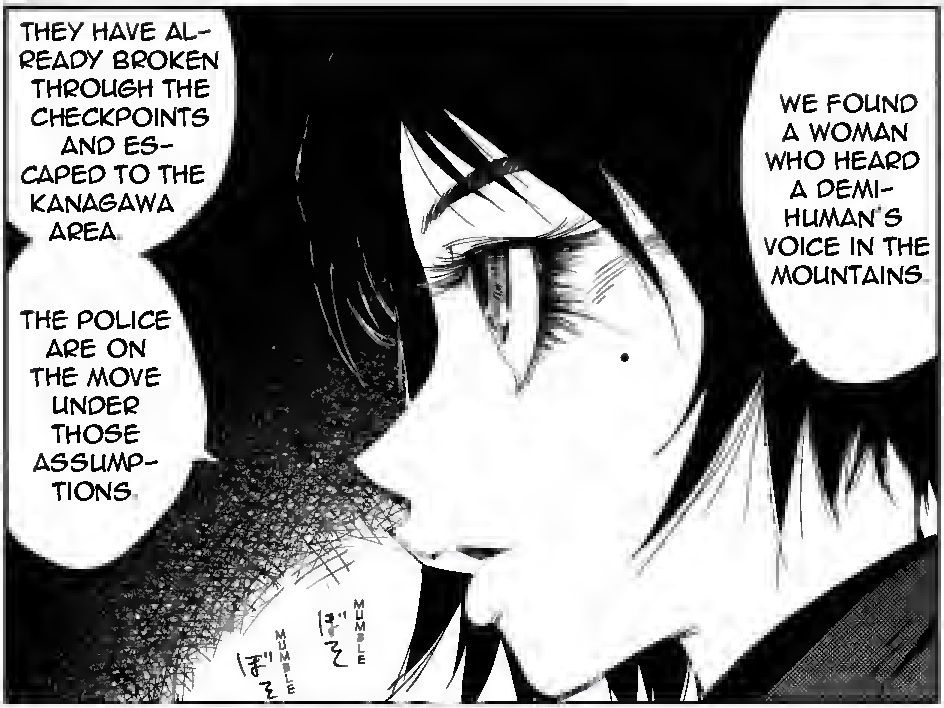

WHAT DO I DO?

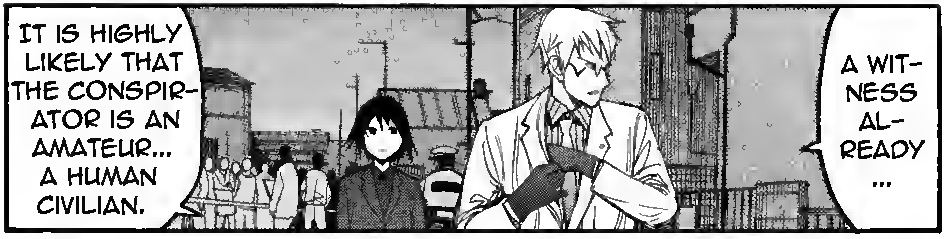

I'M SORRY...
IT'S JUST, LEARNING THAT MY SON... NO, THAT KEI NAGAI WASN'T HUMAN...


YOU SEEM QUITE TIRED, MISS NAGAI.
LET'S LEAVE IT AT THAT FOR TODAY.


MY SYMPA-THIES.

BAM
NO SEEMINGLY USEFUL INFORMATION.
LET'S GO.
COULD BE CONSIDERED USEFUL.
THOUGH OBSERVING A DEMI-HUMAN'S PARENT AT THE TIME OF DETECTION...
IF THERE IS ANY NEW INFORMATION, TELL ME.
WHAT IS THE SITUATION WITH KEI NAGAI? STILL ON THE RUN?


WE FOUND A WOMAN WHO HEARD A DEMI-HUMAN'S VOICE IN THE MOUNTAINS.
THEY HAVE ALREADY BROKEN THROUGH THE CHECKPOINTS AND ESCAPED TO THE KANAGAWA AREA.
THE POLICE ARE ON THE MOVE UNDER THOSE ASSUMPTIONS.
MUMBLE
MUMBLE

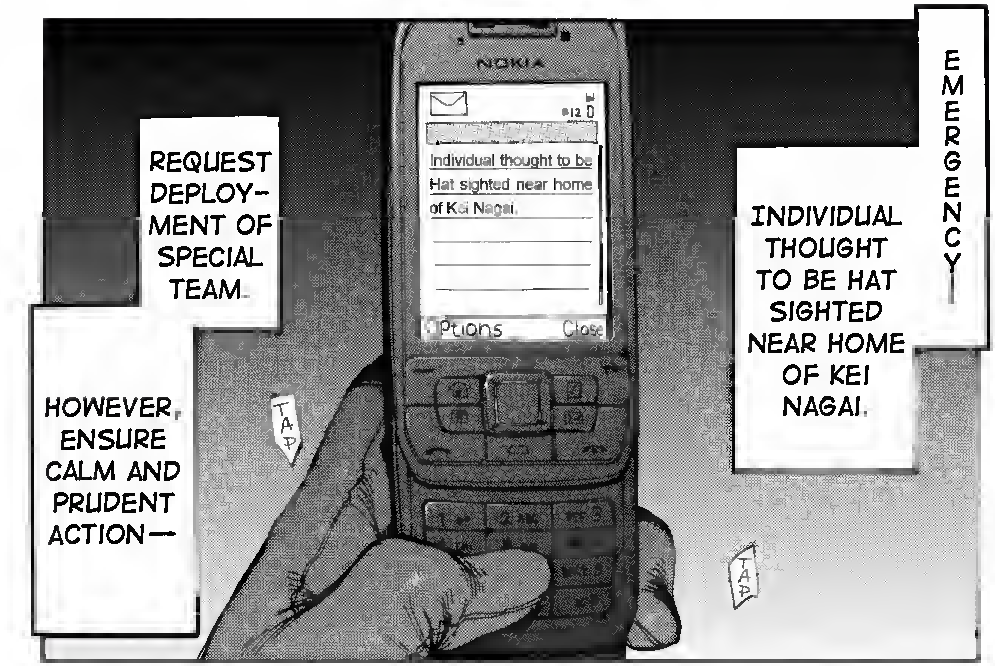

A WITNESS ALREADY...
IT IS HIGHLY LIKELY THAT THE CONSPIRATOR IS AN AMATEUR... A HUMAN CIVILIAN.

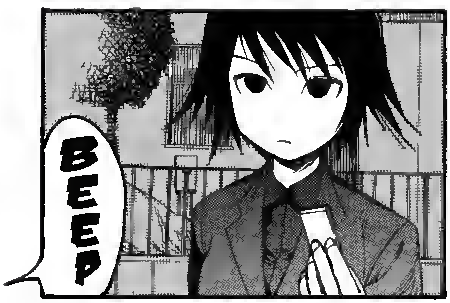
YES. A PROFESSIONAL POACHER OR A FOREIGN OPERATIVE...
WOULD NOT HAVE COMMITTED AN ERROR LIKE THAT.

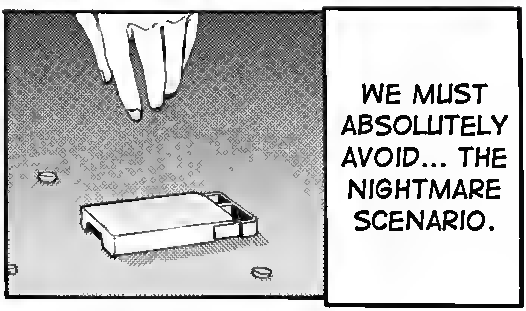
IF THIS IS AN AMATEUR CRIMINAL OUT FOR MONEY, WE SHOULD QUICKLY BE ABLE TO FIND KEI NAGAI.
OF COURSE, THAT IS THE JOB OF THE POLICE... WE—
REALLY?
...IS MONEY THE ONLY POSSIBLE MOTIVE...?
PERSONALLY ...
KLAK
!

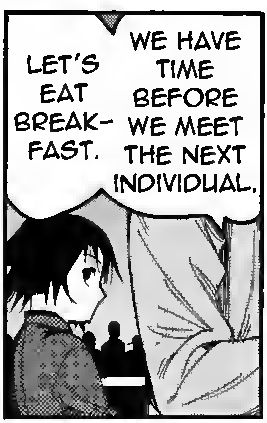
HE'S HERE ...
MIS-TER TOSA ...

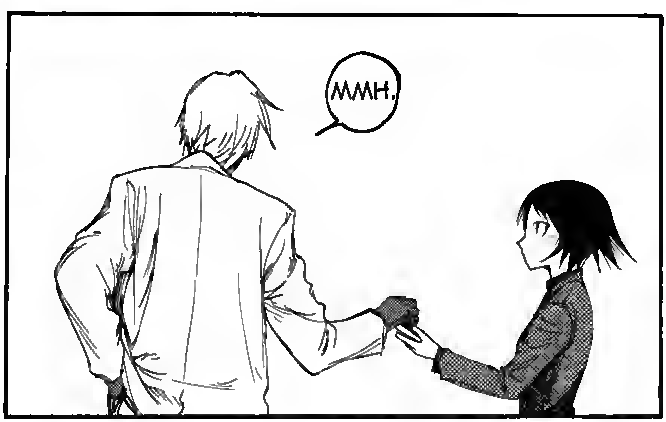
WAIT.
...
AH!
STAY CALM.
CLICK
HM?
?
...

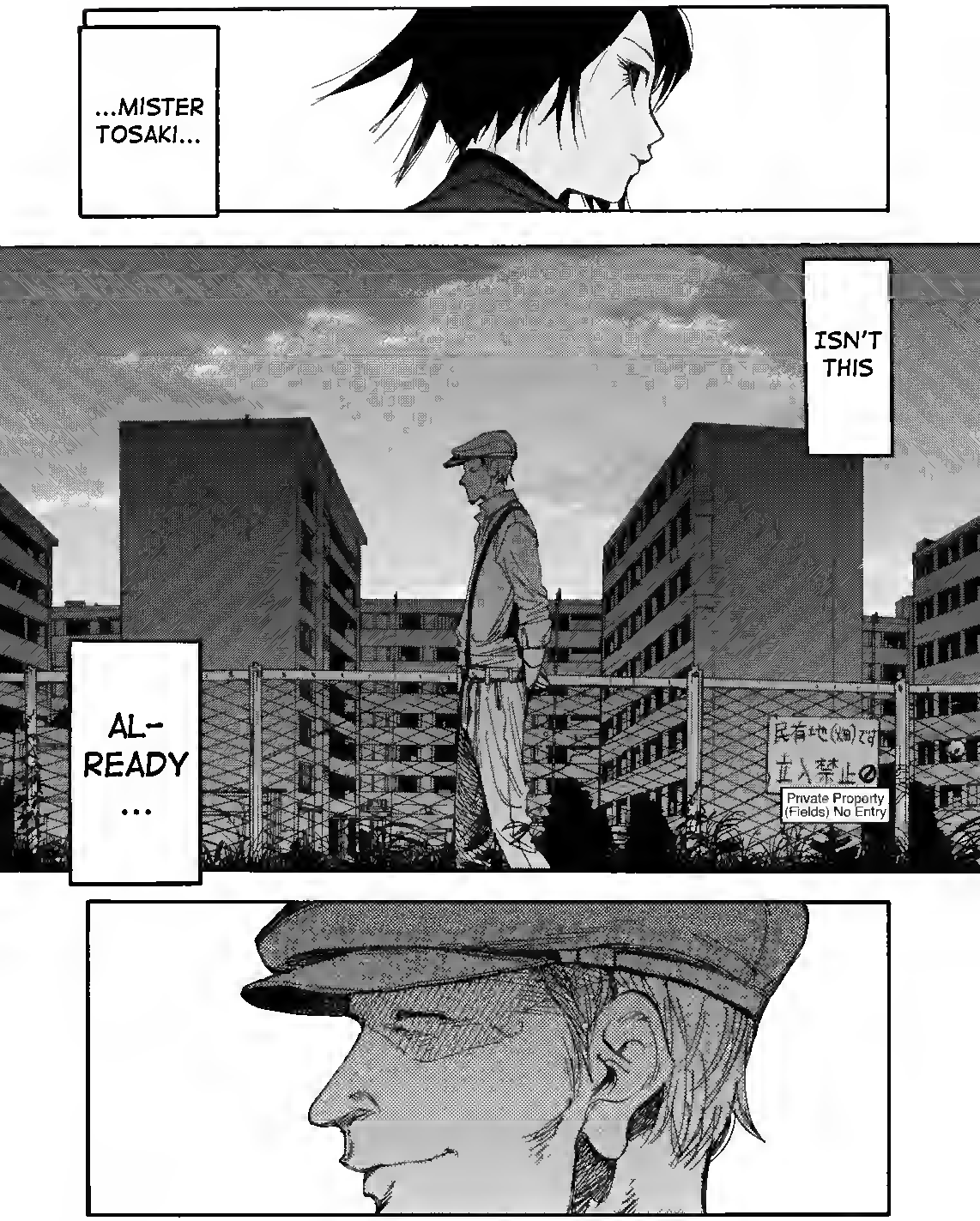

EMERGENCY!
INDIVIDUAL THOUGHT TO BE HAT SIGHTED NEAR HOME OF KEI NAGAI.
REQUEST DEPLOY-MENT OF SPECIAL TEAM.
HOWEVER, ENSURE CALM AND PRUDENT ACTION—
NOKIA
Individual thought to be Hat sighted near home of Kei Nagai.
Options
Close
TAP
TAP

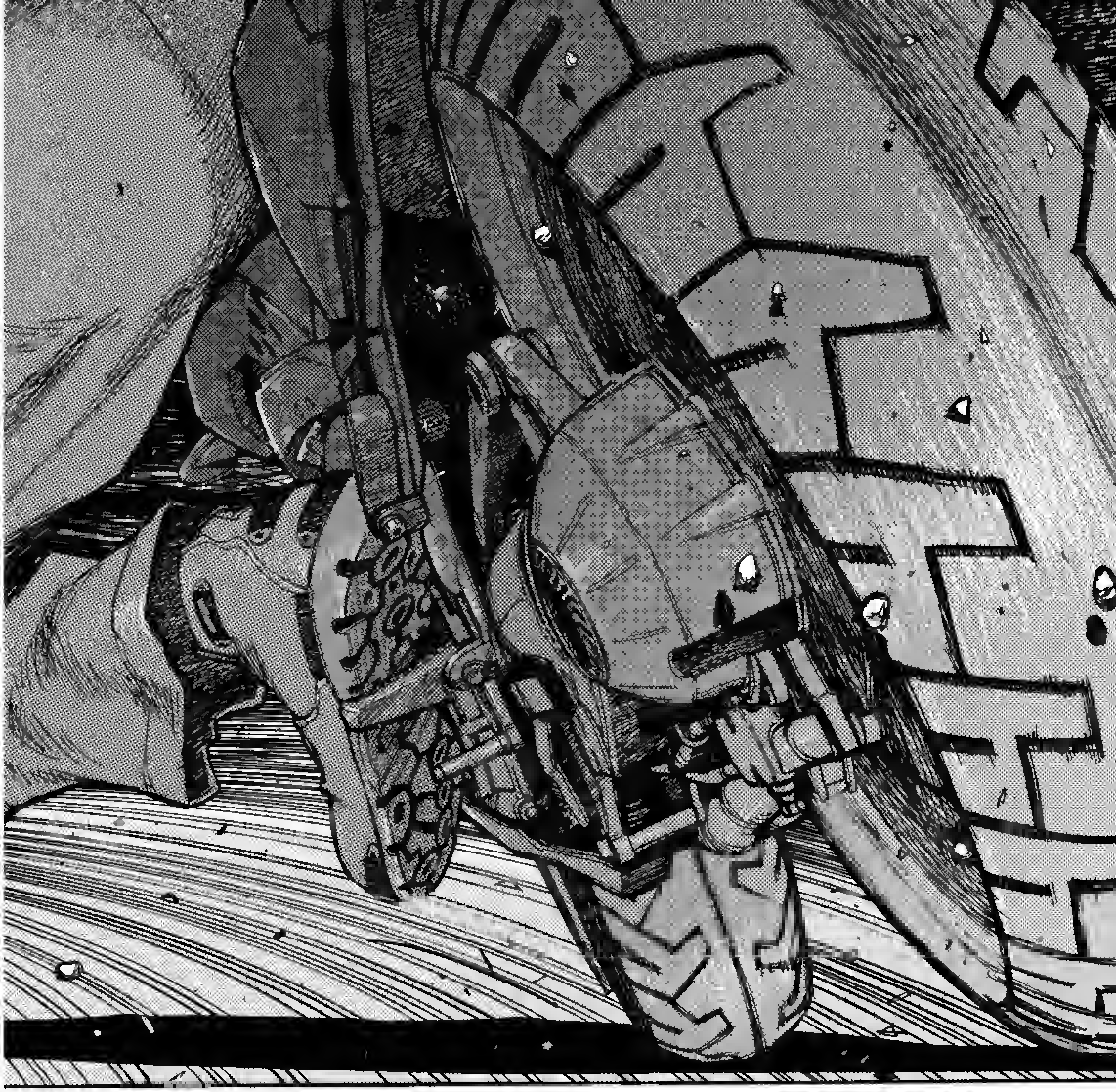

BEEP

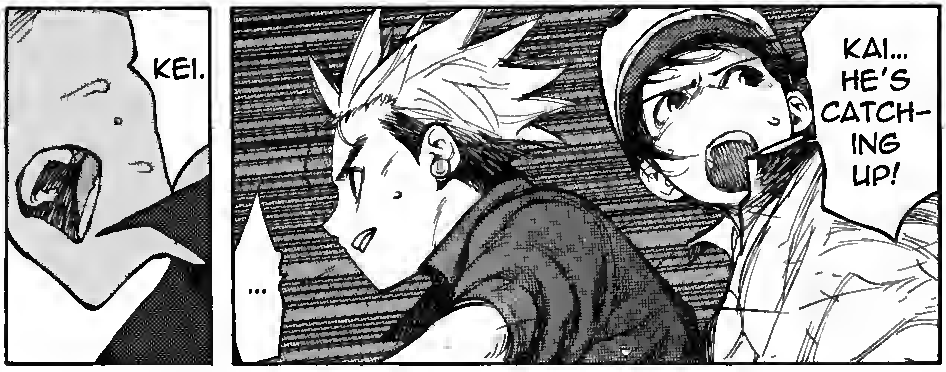

WE MUST ABSOLUTELY AVOID... THE NIGHTMARE SCENARIO.

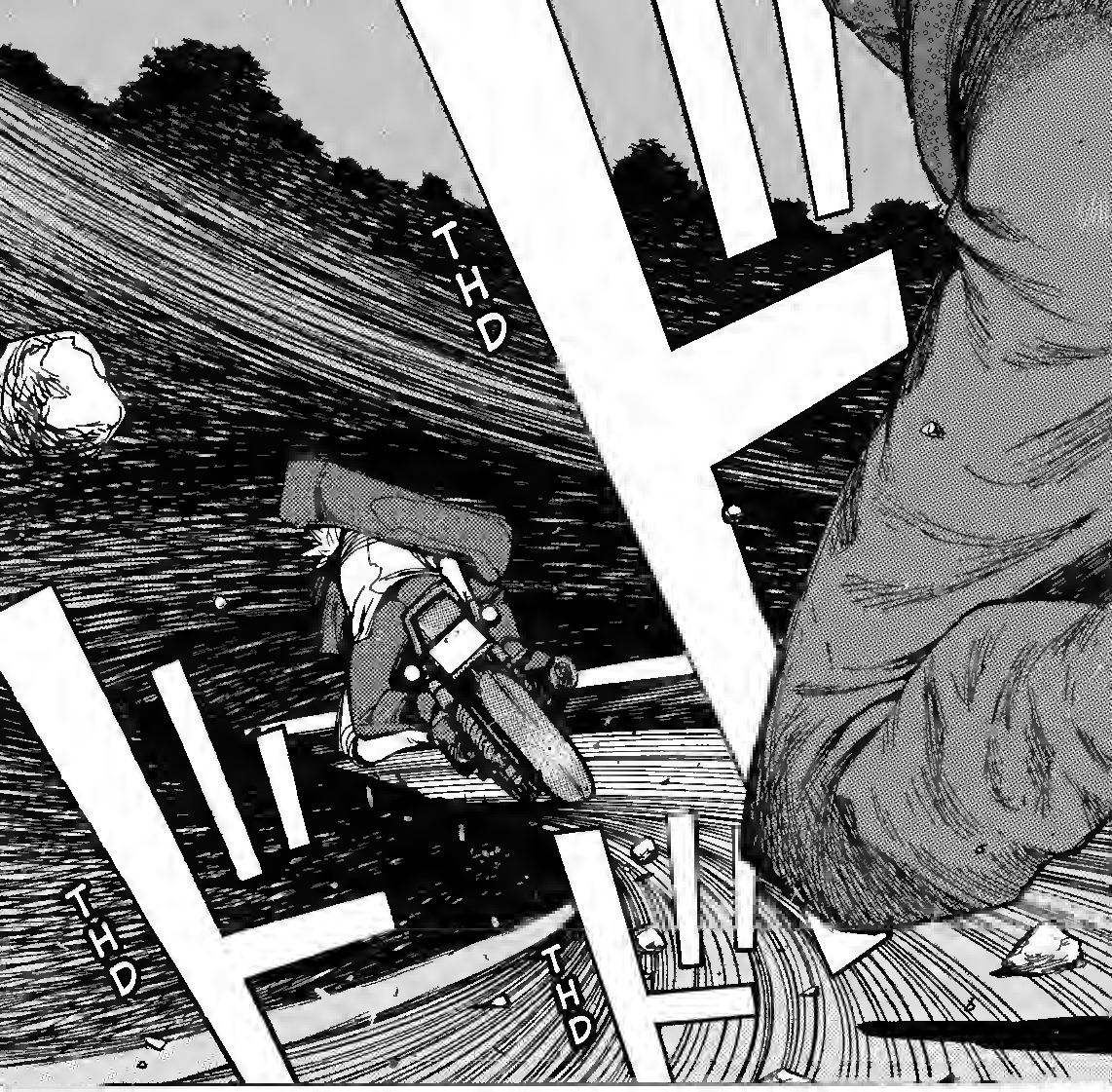

LET'S EAT BREAK-FAST.
WE HAVE TIME BEFORE WE MEET THE NEXT INDIVIDUAL.


MMH.


...MISTER TOSAKI...
ISN'T THIS
AL-READY ...
Private Property (Fields) No Entry

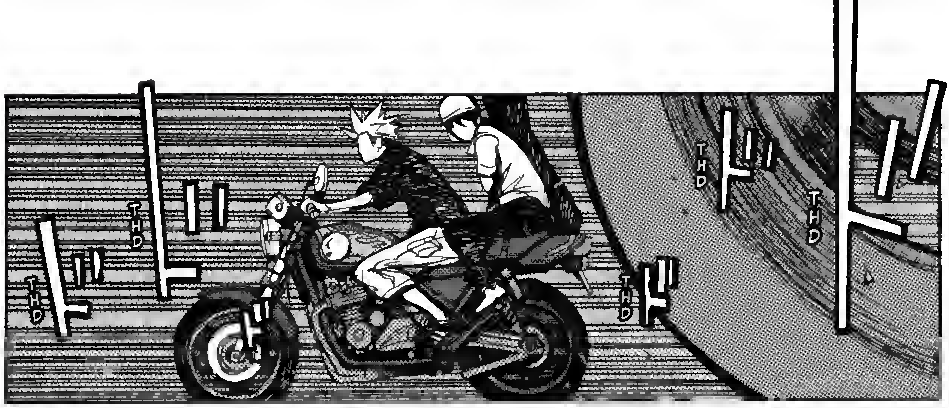


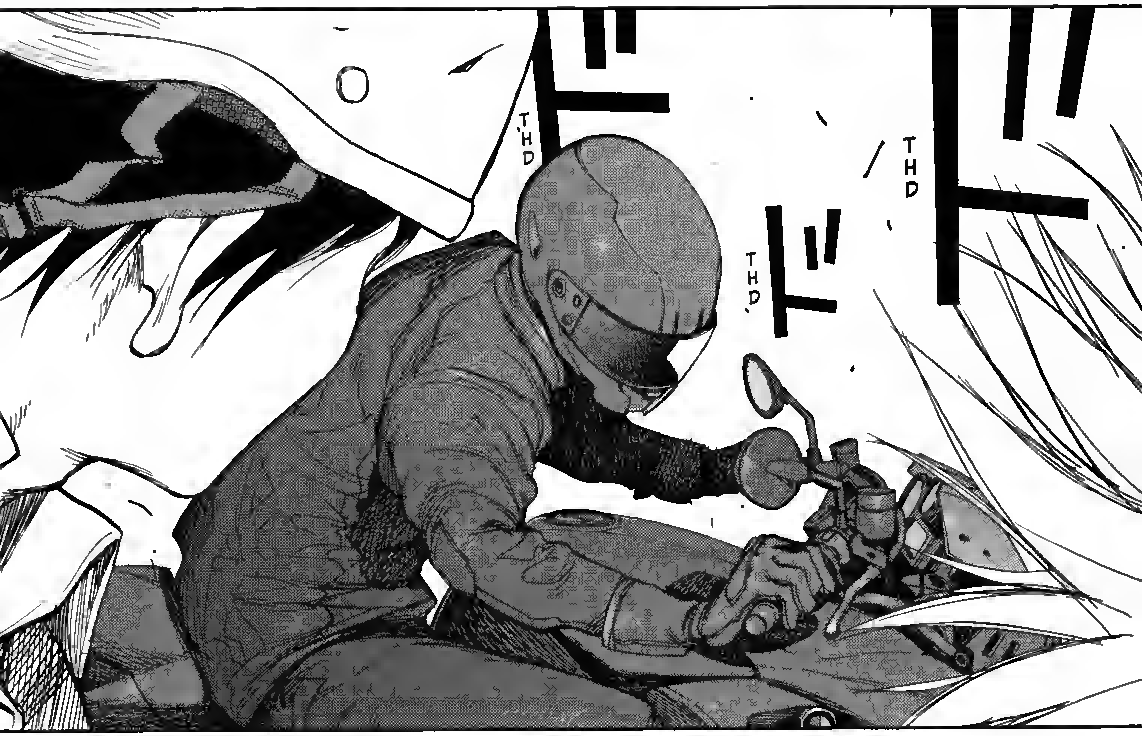

KEI.
...
KAI... HE'S CATCH-ING UP!


THD
THD
THD

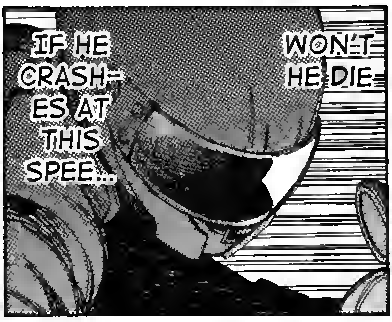
CAN YOU USE YOUR VOICE ...?!
IT'LL FREEZE HIS BODY!

I DON'T KNOW... THERE'S THE SOUND OF THE BIKES ...
AND WHAT ABOUT YOU ...?!
PLUG MY EARS WHEN YOU SCREAM! I DUNNO IF THAT'LL WORK, BUT...
IF HE CRASHES AND WE DON'T, WE WIN!!
ALL RIGHT ...
LET'S DO IT!!

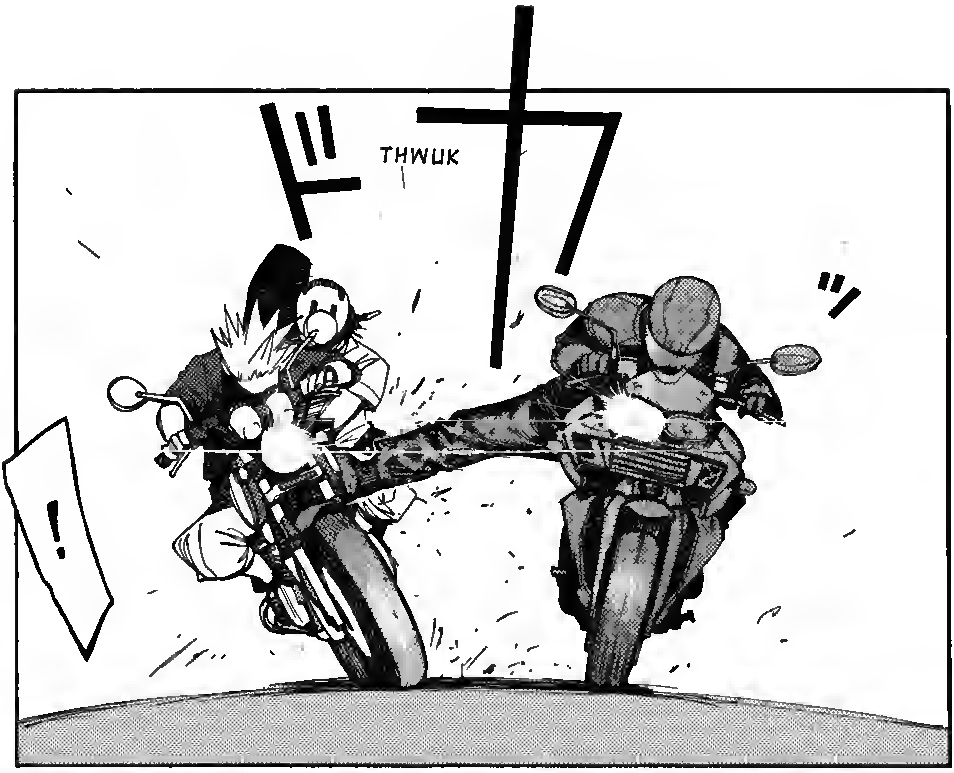

THD
THD
THD
THD
THD

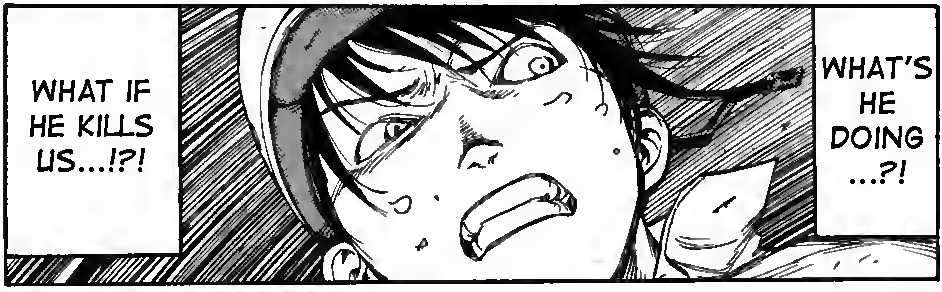

THD
THD
THD

... HUH?


IF HE CRASHES AT THIS SPEE...
WON'T HE DIE

NO...
WAIT...

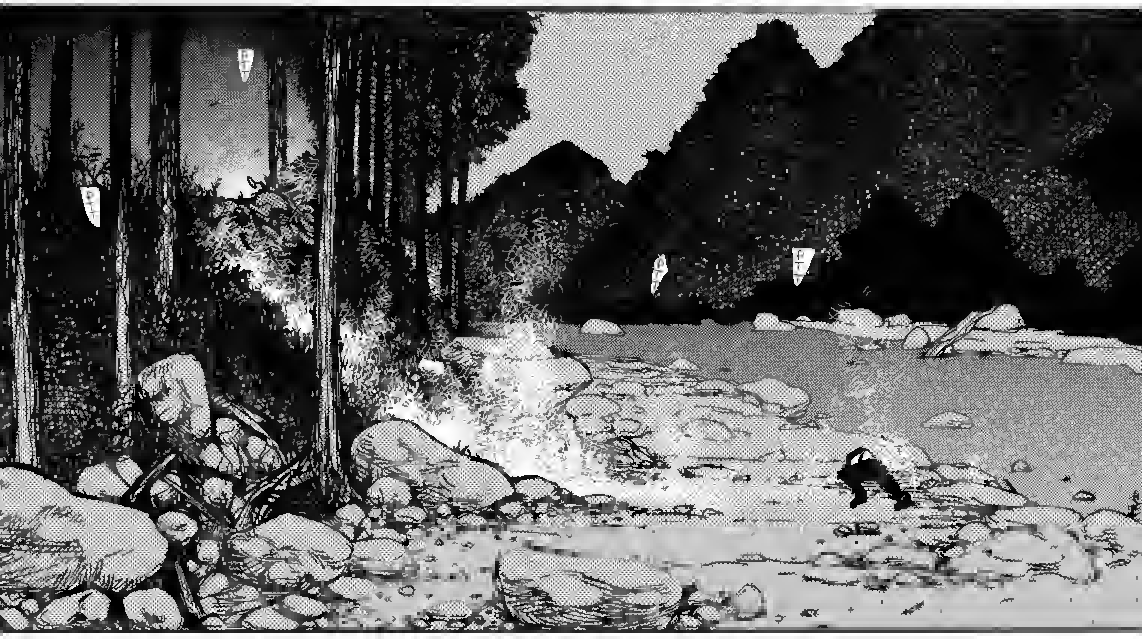

THWUK
!


WHAT IF HE KILLS US...!?!
WHAT'S HE DOING ...?!

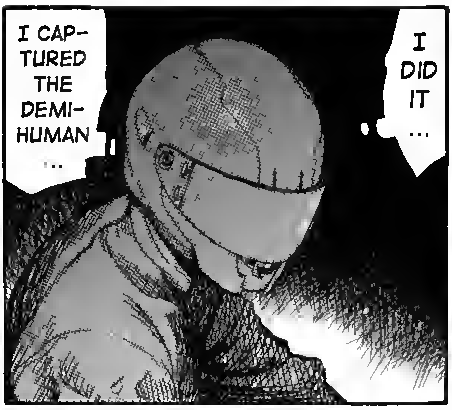
BUT KAI ...!!

OH... I GUESS I WOULDN'T DIE...

ZEIHR

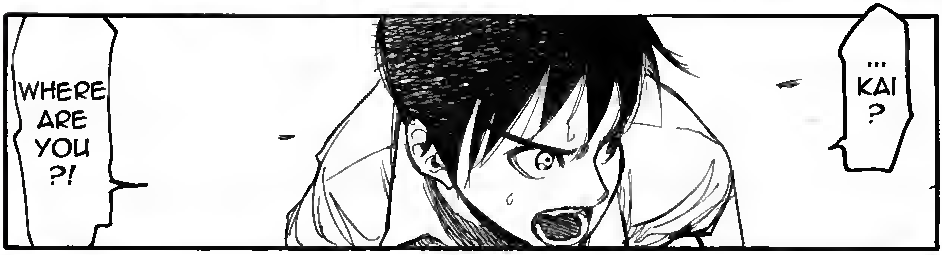


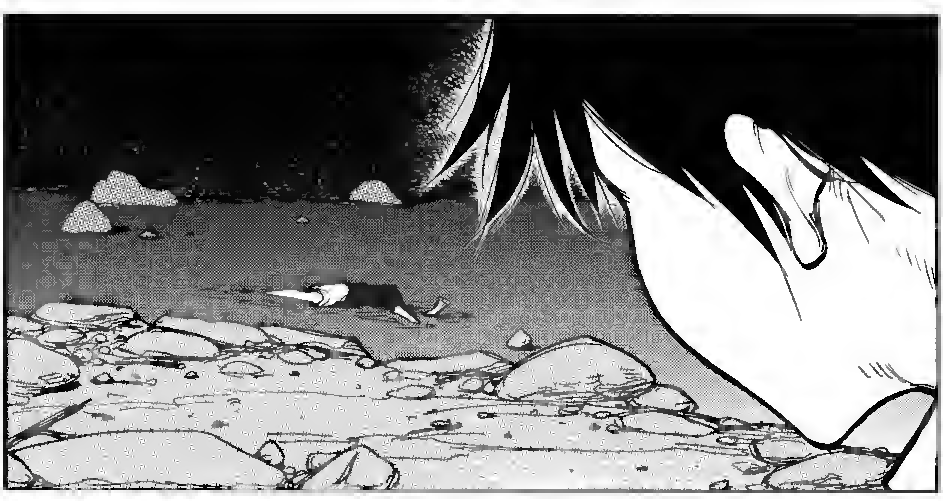
KLIK


I CAP-
TURED
THE
DEMI-
HUMAN
...
I
DID
IT
...

COULD THIS BE A FRAC-TURE...
IT HURTS... AND MY BODY'S HEAVY...

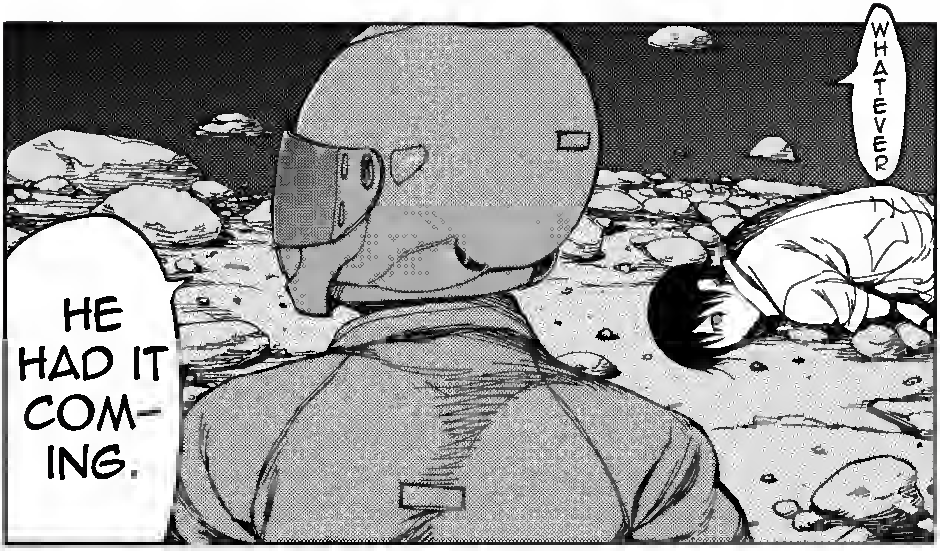
MMF...
KAH...

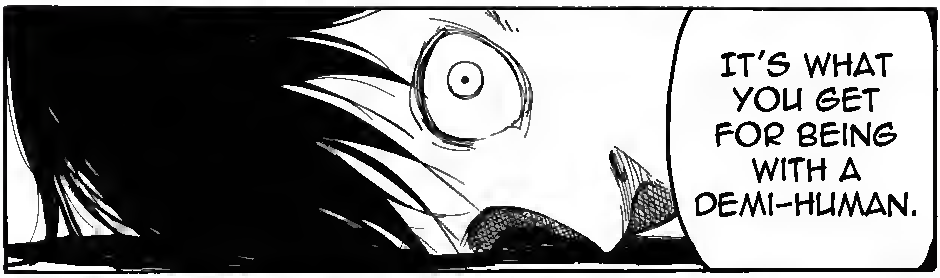

WHERE ARE YOU ?!
...KAI ?



KA...
SHUT UP AND DON'T MOVE.
CLONG
OWW...
AAAGH...!!

UGH.
NO SER-VICE ...
NOW WHAT DO I DO...
... LANCE ...
K...
THE GUY OVER THERE... HE'S HUMAN...
PLEASE... CALL AN AMBU-LANCE...
IS HE ...
DEAD ...?
HUNH ?


WHATEVER
HE HAD IT COM-ING.


IT'S WHAT YOU GET FOR BEING WITH A DEMI-HUMAN.

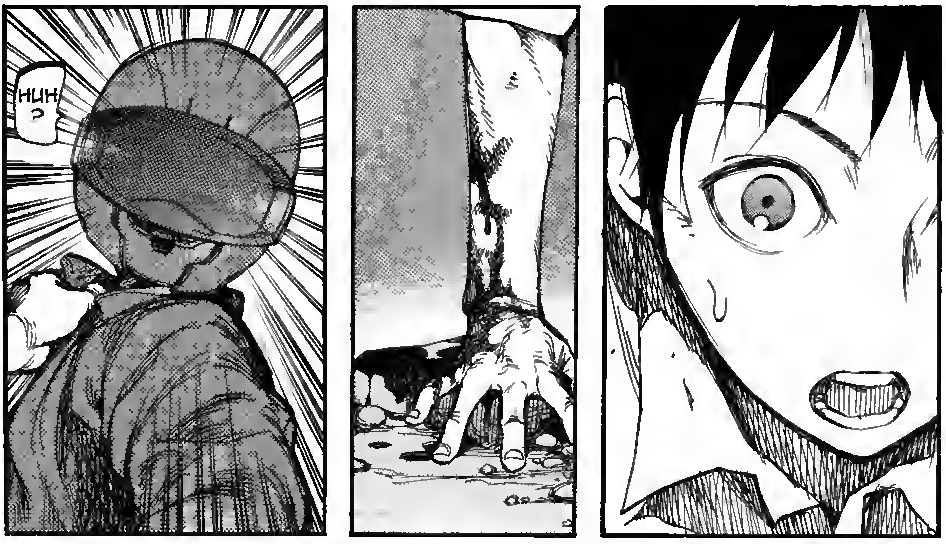
WOULD THIS NOT HAVE HAPPENED ...?!
IF I HADN'T RUN...
IS IT MY ...
FAULT...?

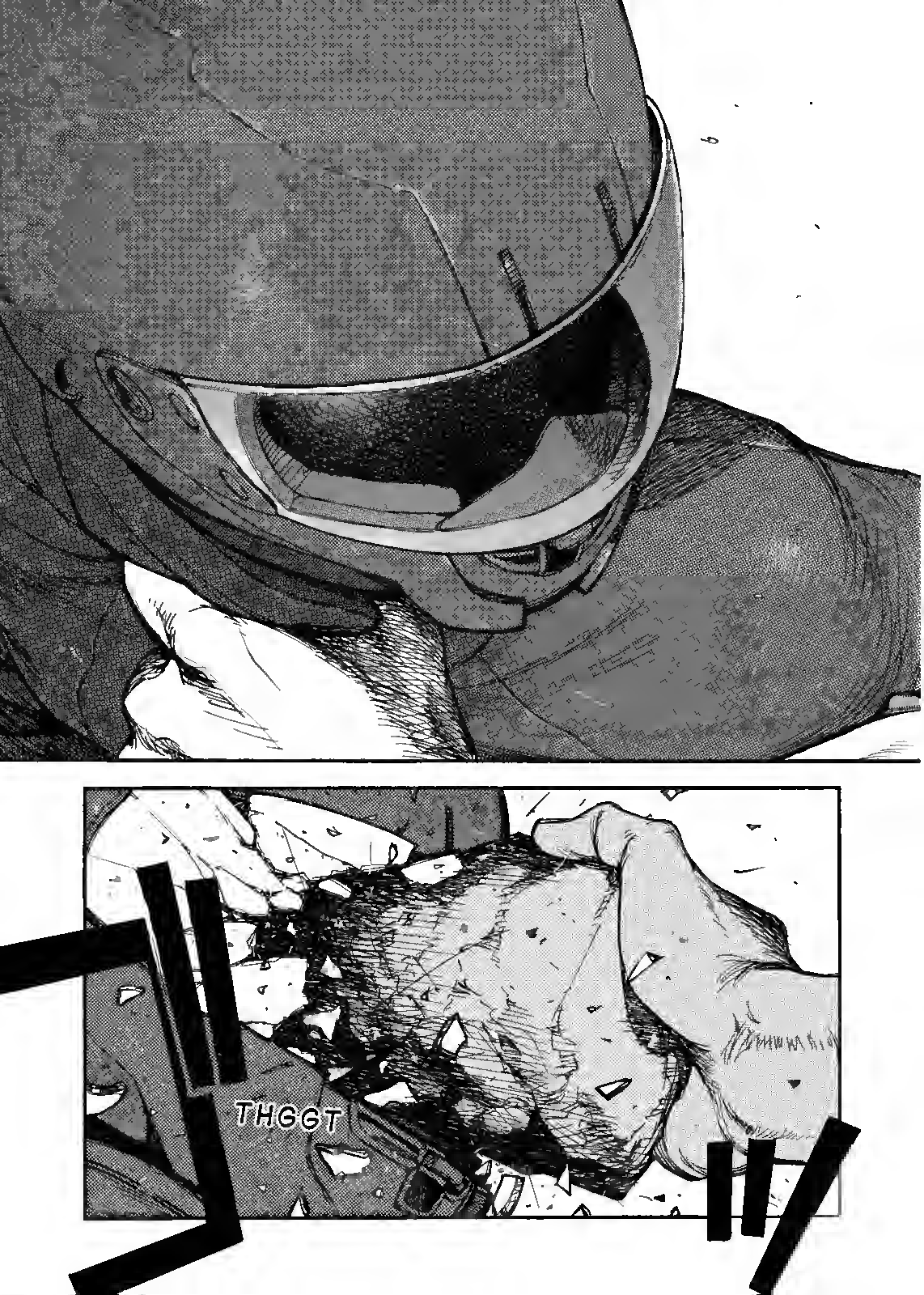
IF I HADN'T ASKED KAI FOR HELP...

C'MON. STAND.
WE'LL HAVE TO WALK TO A SPOT WITH RECEP-TION.

NO... STILL...
UGH. YOU'RE PISSING ME OFF...
CAN'T STAND ?
THUMP

IF IT WASN'T FOR HIM...
KAI WOULD BE FINE.
NO!!
THUMP
HIM ...
THUMP
IT'S HIM.
THUMP
If it wasn't for him ...!


ННИН
?

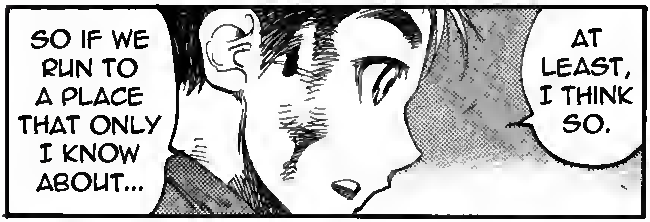

THGGT

AA
GH
WA!...
AH!
THOOMP

YOU WERE ALIVE...
KAI ...
THUD
I WAS JUST PLAYING DEAD.
THIS DOESN'T EVEN STING.
...KAI...
ALL RIGHT, KEI. LET'S GET AWAY ON HIS BIKE.
HEH...

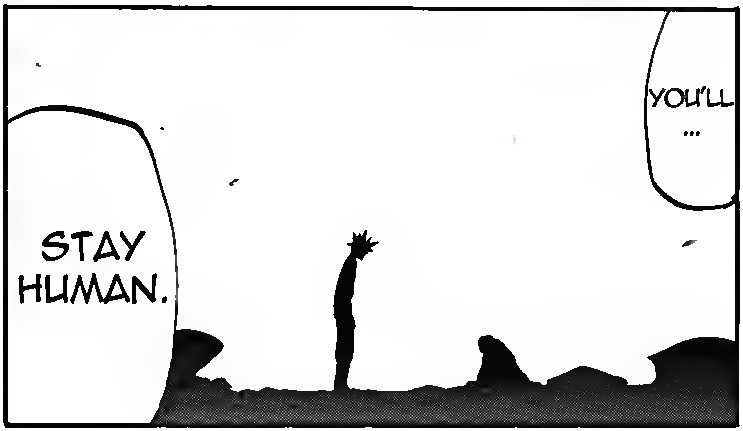
MAYBE THIS IS THE END OF THE LINE?
I CAN'T STAND... OR I GUESS WHAT I MEAN TO SAY IS...
MY LEG'S BROKEN.
IF YOU STAY WITH ME, YOU MIGHT...
IT'S BARELY BRIGHT OUT AND THIS ALREADY HAP-PENED.
KEI.
MAYBE HUMANS AND DEMI-HUMANS JUST CAN'T BE TO-GETHER...

YOU'RE HUMAN.
ガラ
ガラ


SO IF WE RUN TO A PLACE THAT ONLY I KNOW ABOUT...
AT LEAST, I THINK SO.

NO ...
THAT'S...

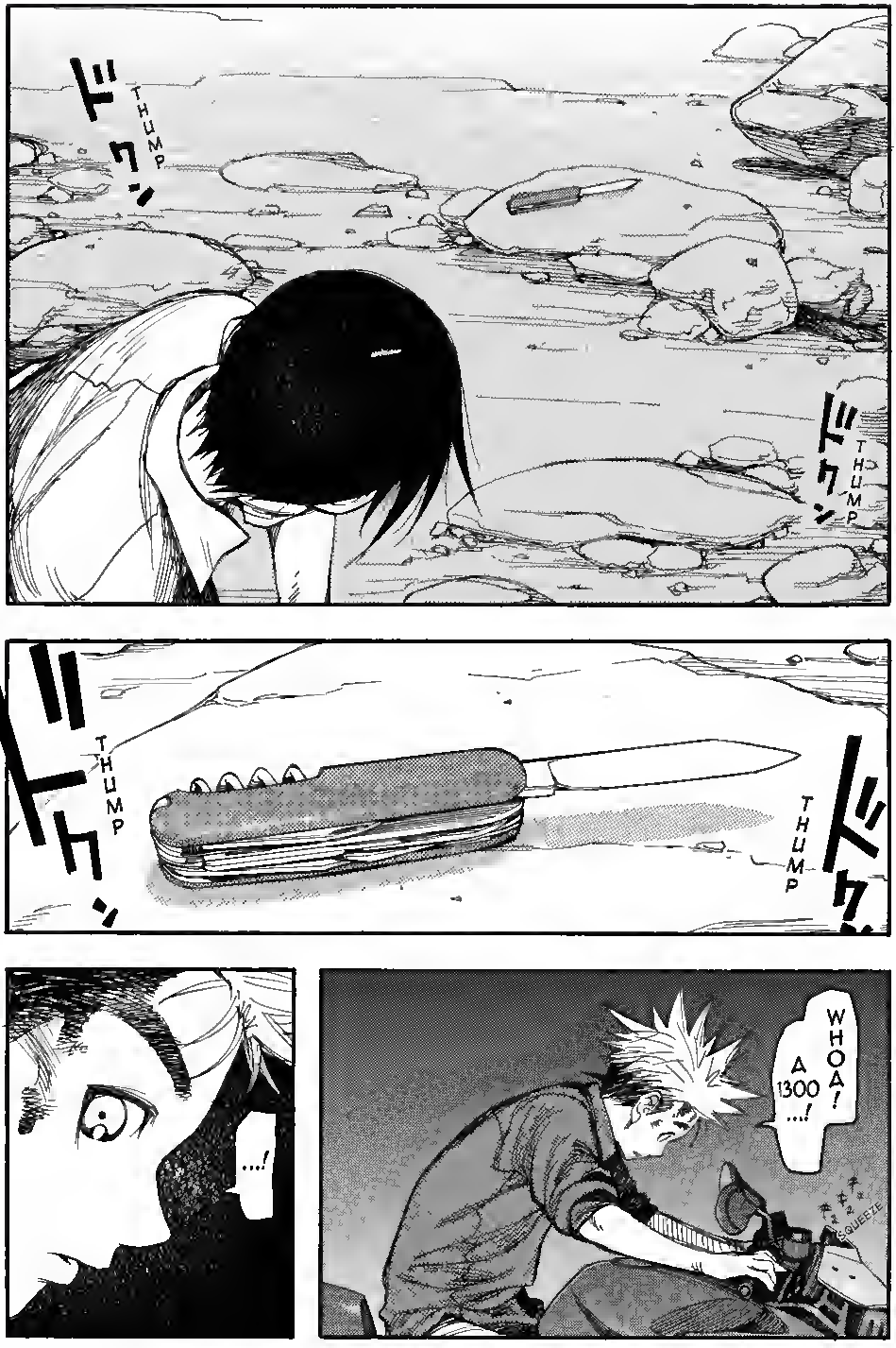
...

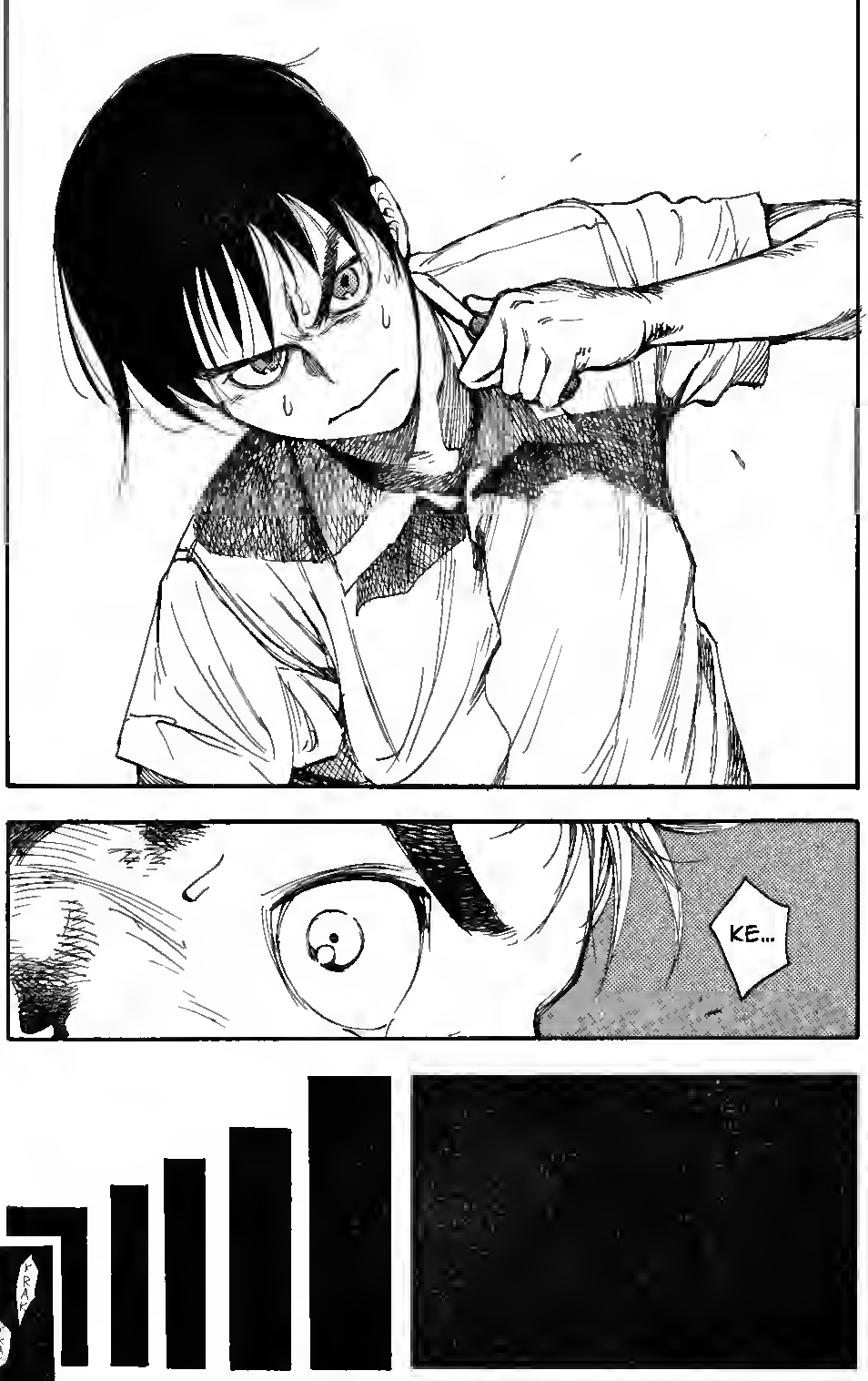

STAY HUMAN.
YOU'LL ...

I'VE LEARNED MY LESSON BY NOW.
AAH! OWW
I'M NOT HUMAN ANY-MORE.
IT'S FINE, KAI.
WHY ARE YOU DOING SO MUCH ...?
CAUSE...
WE'RE FRIENDS.
NO ...

EVEN IF I TOLD HIM TO LEAVE ME HERE
...
I DON'T THINK HE'D LISTEN
...
HE REALLY IS... A FREAK.
KAI ...
HOW CAN I KEEP KAI OUT OF DAN-GER?
SO WHAT DO I DO?
THINK ... WHAT DO I DO...
WHAT SHOULD I DO AS...
I THINK I CAN RIDE A BIKE, BUT CAN I WALK...?
WILL ANY DOC-TOR... LOOK AT THIS LEG?

A
Demi-
human
—
As
THUMP


ドクン
THUMP
ドクン
THUMP
ドクン
THUMP
ドクン
THUMP
...!
WHOA! A 1300 ...!
SQUEEZE


KE...
KRAK

I'M ALL BETTER!
LET'S GO, KAI!

THEY SEEM ...
AFRAID ...
Sex Club Ranking
THEY THINK A SITUATION LIKE MINE OR SHINYA NAKAMURA'S COULD HAPPEN AGAIN.
SO THEY WON'T DO ANYTHING DRASTIC ...
OF COURSE, IT'S THE SAME FOR US.
SO, MISTER SATO.
WHAT'LL YOU DO NOW?

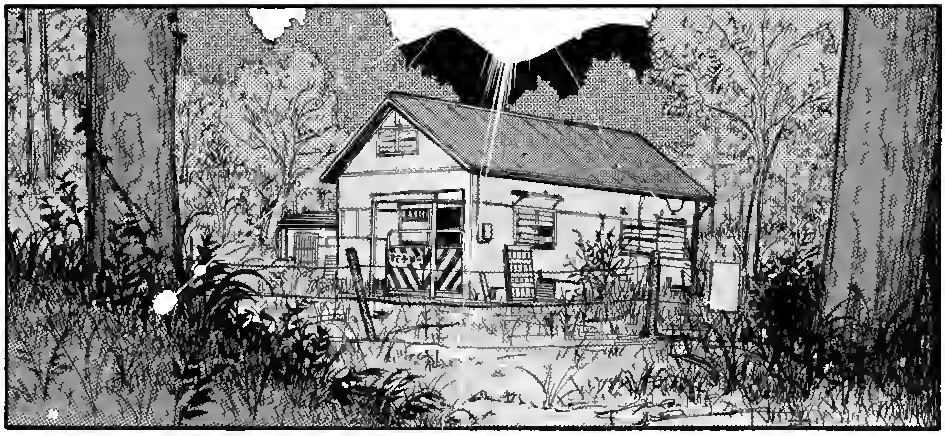
I MUST...
SHOW HIM THE WAY.
WILL YOU HELP ME,
I'LL MEET KEI NAGAI FIRST...
FLIP

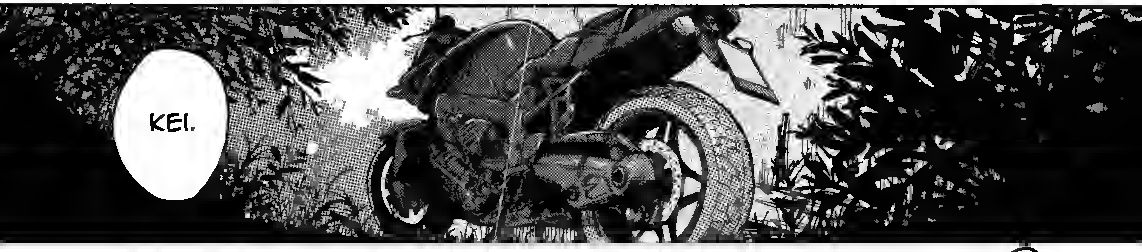
File:03 End

DEMI-HUMANS ARE NOTHING MORE THAN PLAIN IMMORTAL BEINGS...
IS THAT WHAT YOU THINK,
HM?
WHEN THE DEMI-HUMANS' BLESSING CAME TO YOU
YOU SHOULD HAVE LISTENED HARDER, LOOKED CLOSER...
ALLOW ME TO TEACH YOU.
THAT'S WHY I SAVED YOU...

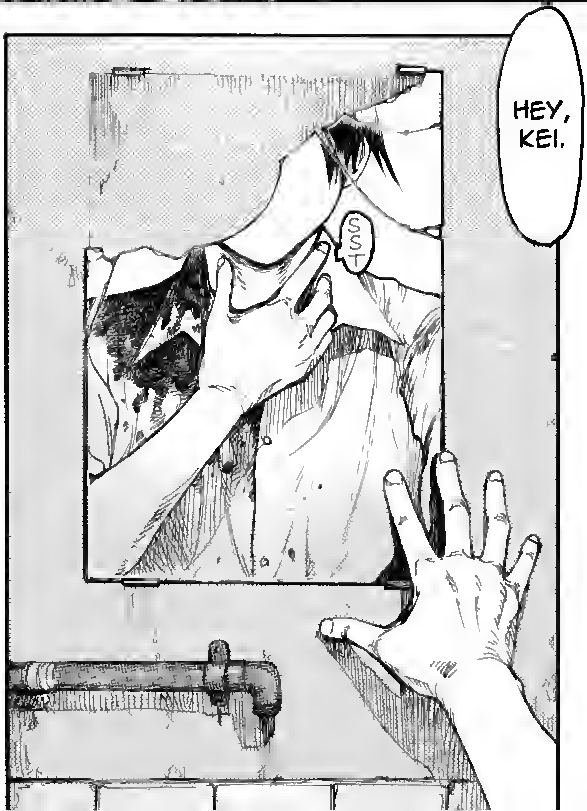
TANAKA.

File 04: Interrogation and Conspirator




KEI.

YOU LISTEN-ING TO ME?


HEY, KEI.
SST

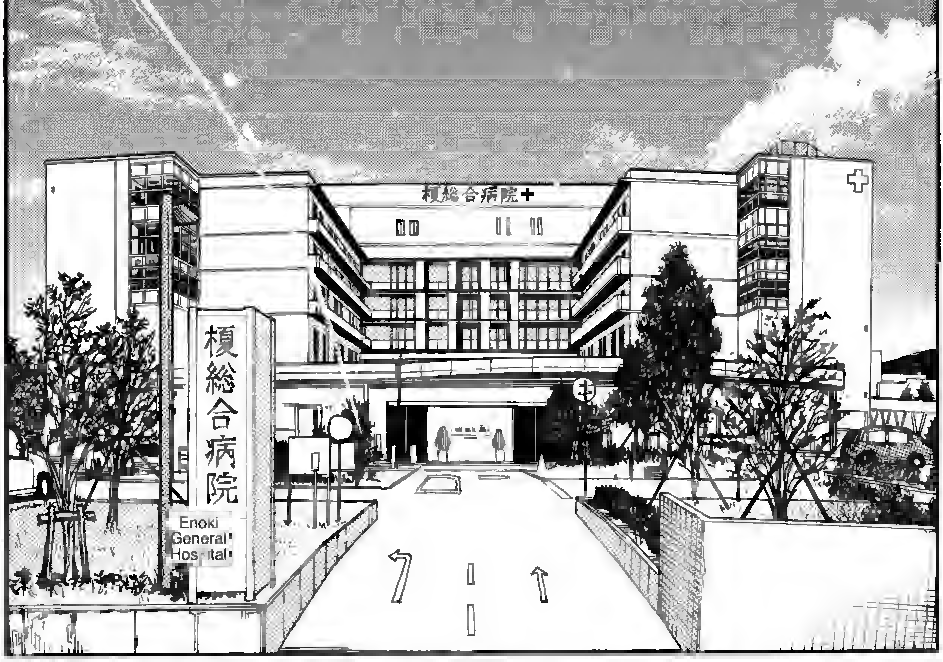
YEAH.
I'M LISTENING, KAI.
...
SO, THOUGHTS.
... OH.

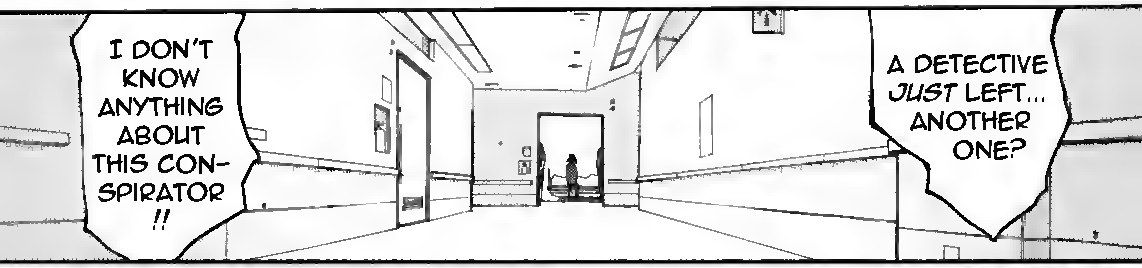
YOUR GRAND-FATHER LIVES IN KYUSHU, SO WE ESCAPE THERE...
THE VILLAGE IS SO SMALL THAT NO ONE THERE WILL CARE ABOUT DEMI-HUMANS...
YEAH...

I THINK IT'S OUR BEST CHOICE.
I WOULD HAVE NEVER COME UP WITH IT ALONE...

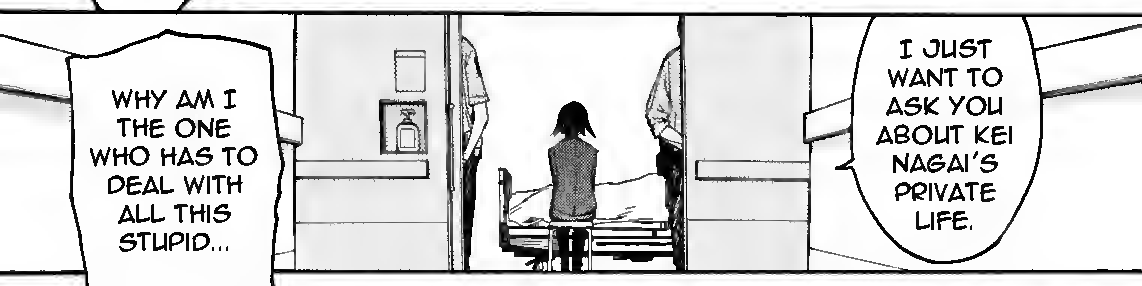
I'LL GO BUY NEW CLOTHES AND STUFF.
OKAY.
みかん
MIKAN

YOU SHOULD SPEND THE DAY HIDING HERE.

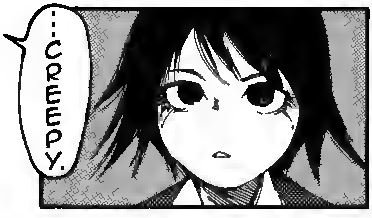

榎総合病院
榎総合病院
Enoki General Hospital


I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THIS CONSPIRATOR!!
A DETECTIVE JUST LEFT... ANOTHER ONE?

WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?!
OUR ONLY GOAL IS TO RESEARCH AND CONTROL DEMI-HU—
I'M WITH THE DEMI-HUMAN CONTROL COMMISSION. I'M NOT A POLICE OFFICER.


WHY AM I THE ONE WHO HAS TO DEAL WITH ALL THIS STUPID...
I JUST WANT TO ASK YOU ABOUT KEI NAGAI'S PRIVATE LIFE.

BECAUSE YOU ARE KEI NAGAI'S YOUNGER SISTER,
MISS ERIKO.


...CREEPY.

I'M SORRY TO ASK WHILE YOU'RE RECUPERATING, BUT...

WHAT A CREEP-ER.
SOME-ONE THAT THOUGHT HE WAS HUMAN WHEN HE WASN'T ...
WAS LIVING IN MY HOUSE
KNOW SOME-ONE WHOSE RELATIVE WAS A DEMI-HUMAN.
I...
...
I CAN'T FATHOM THE AMOUNT ...
OF PAIN THEY MUST HAVE FELT...
BUT,

I WANT TO MAKE SURE THERE ARE NO MORE CASES LIKE THEIRS OR YOURS.
THAT IS WHY I WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT DEMI-HUMANS.
HOW THEY'RE BORN... IF THEY'RE TRULY IM-MORTAL...
IF THEY'RE REALLY NOT HUMAN.
IT CAN BE ABSO-LUTELY ANY-THING.
WAS THERE ANYTHING ABOUT HIM UNLIKE A NORMAL HUMAN?

...
...IT'S REALLY STUPID ...
BUT I HAVE ONE STORY...
...
WILL YOU LEAVE IF I TELL IT?
YES.
WHEN OUR DOG DIED,
HE SAID SOME-THING STRANGE THAT I STILL RE-MEMBER...

Run
...
Eri
...

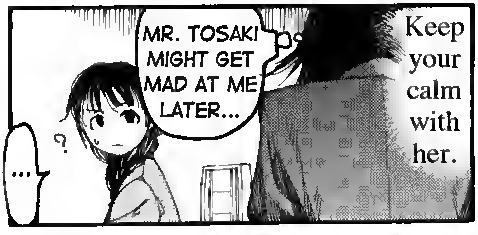
What
....!

A ghost
is com-ing.
...?
...
No...

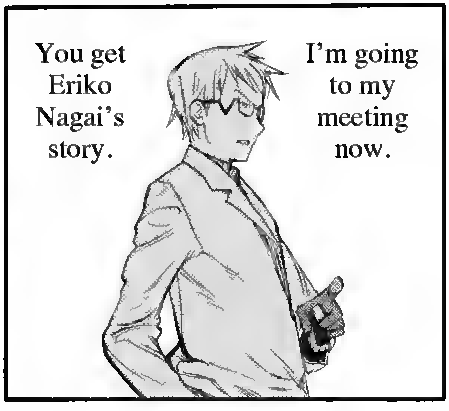
It's coming out...?

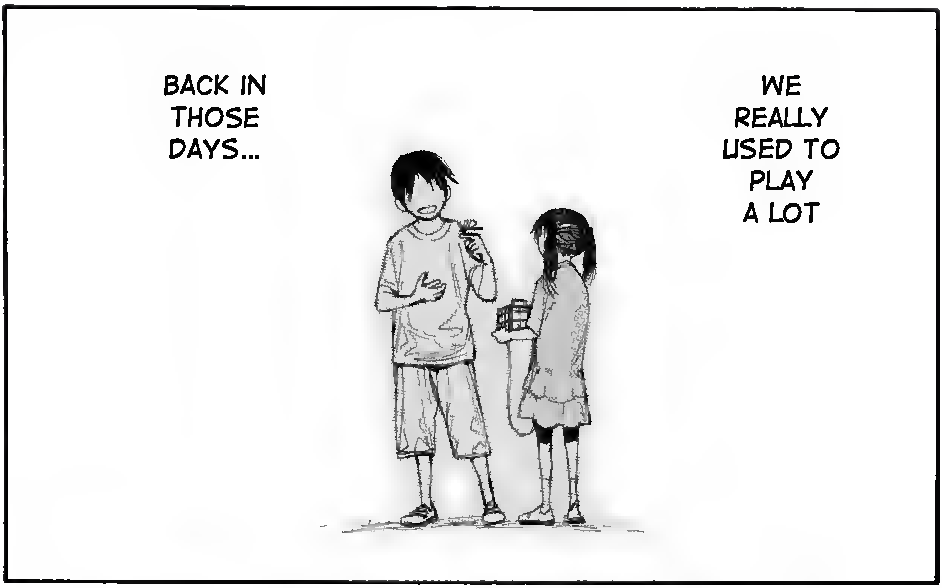
SO KEI NAGAI ...
SAID HE SAW A BLACK GHOST ?!
!
HUH?
I DUNNO IF IT WAS BLACK.

I JUST...
SLIPPED OUT...


MR. TOSAKI MIGHT GET MAD AT ME LATER...
Keep your calm with her.
...?

AU
BUT ...
...
...


You get Eriko Nagai's story.
I'm going to my meeting now.


BACK IN THOSE DAYS...
WE REALLY USED TO PLAY A LOT

KAI, TOO.

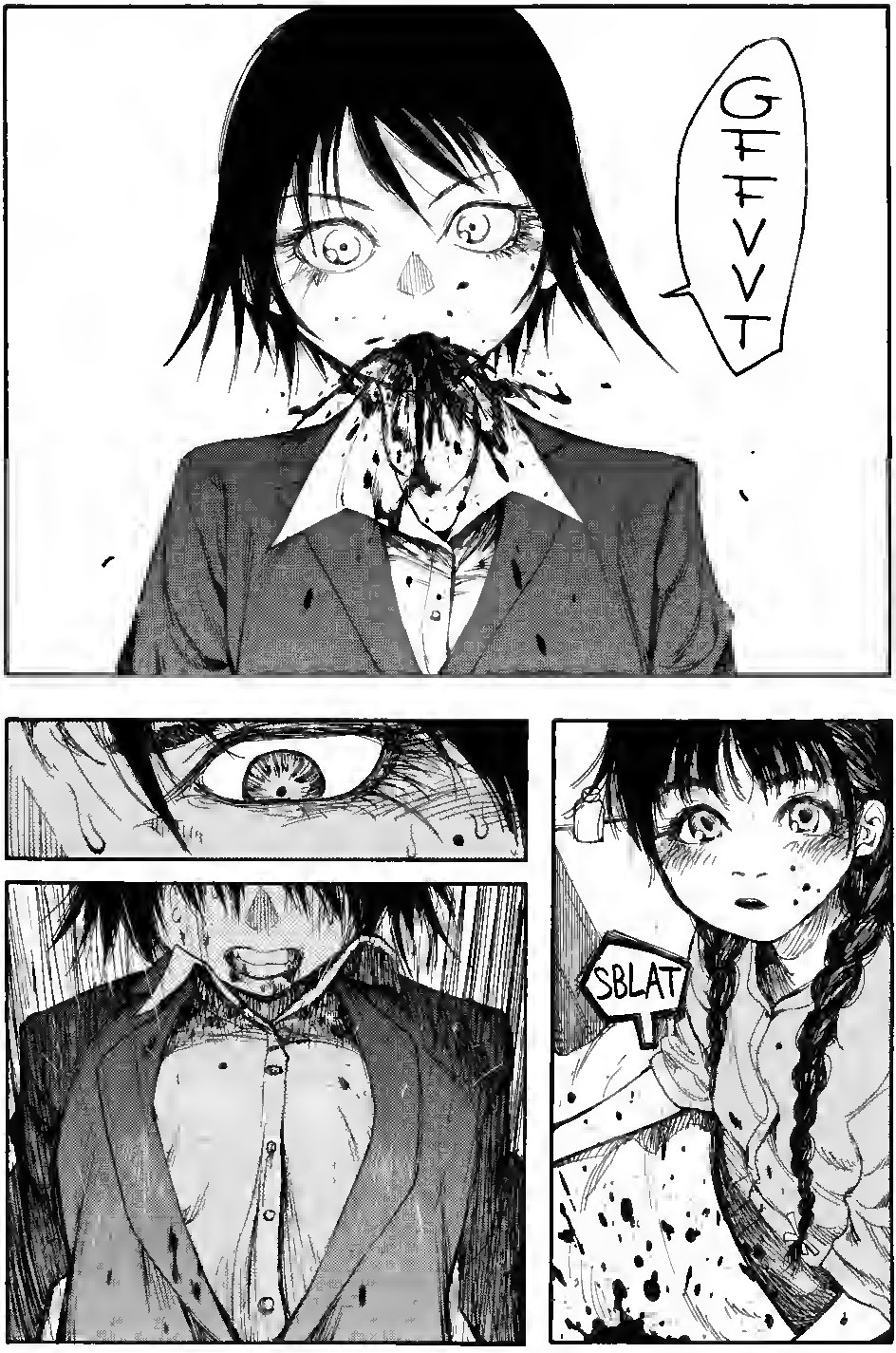
AND ...

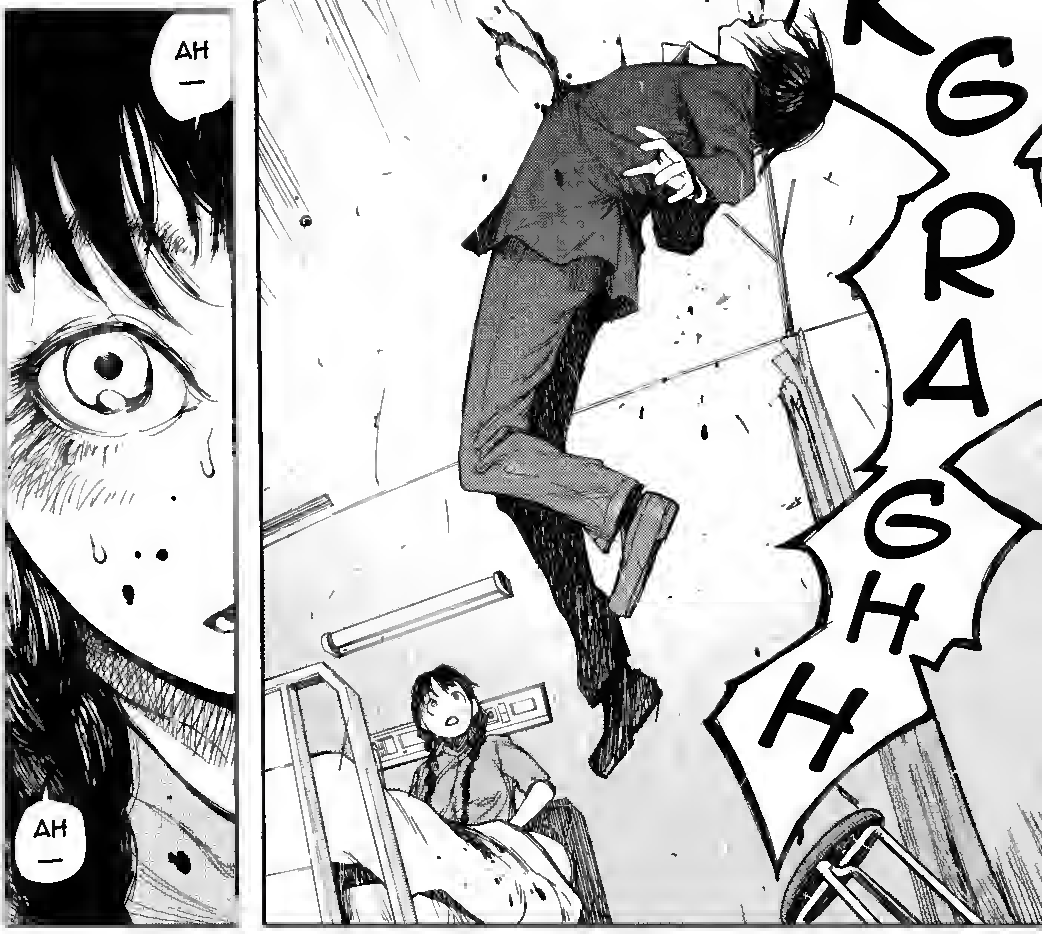
... OH.

WAIT.
THAT "CONSPIRATOR."

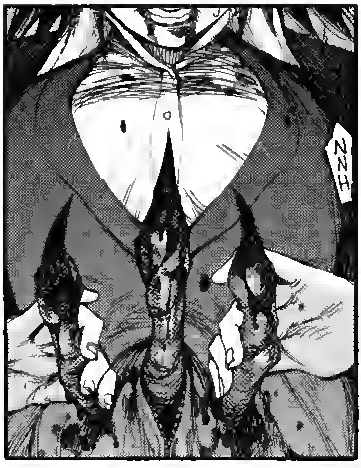
UM, HE MIGHT BE

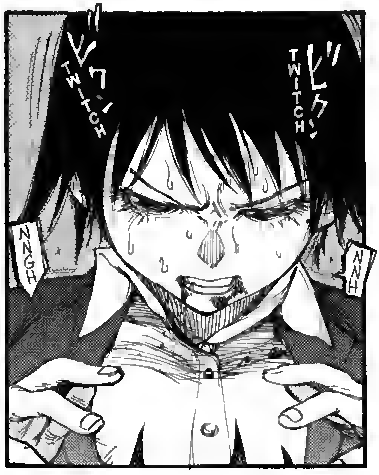
HM?


GFFVVT
SBLAT


AH
—
AH
—
KGRASHH

YOU.


NNH


ビクン
TWITCH
NNGH
NNH

KEHEH…

KA
HA
HA
HA
HA
HA
HA
HA
HA
榎総合病院
Enoki General Hospital

THUD
AAAH
EEH
WH—
ビクン
TWITCH
ビクン
TWITCH

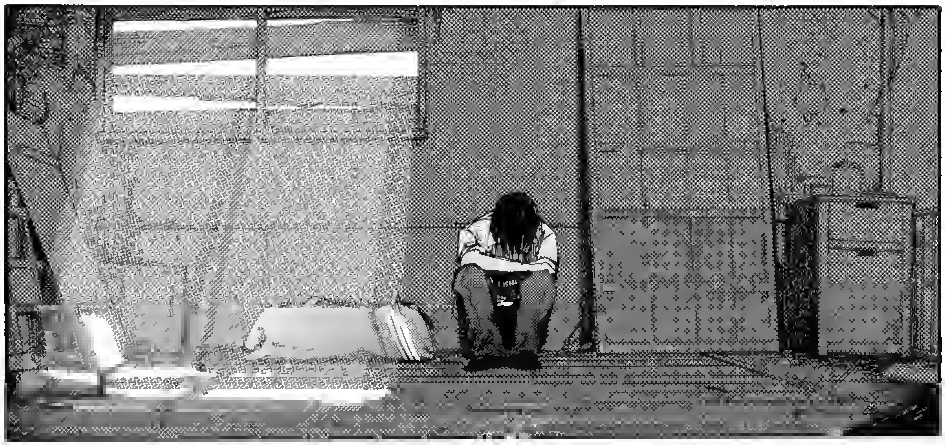
AT
THUD
ZZZPT

WHAT'S
—
WHOOMP

AH!
AH!
AH!
AH!

AAH!
...
AH!

ドン
THUMP



SO... THEY WON'T CARE IF I'M A DEMI-HUMAN...?
VILLAG-ERS IN REMOTE KYUSHU ...

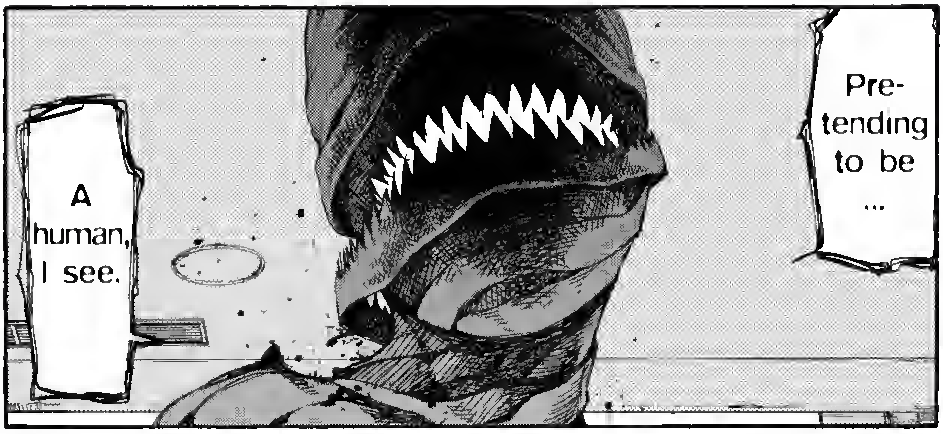
OH, BUT ...
I GUESS THERE'S AN UPSIDE TO DEALING WITH HUMANS.

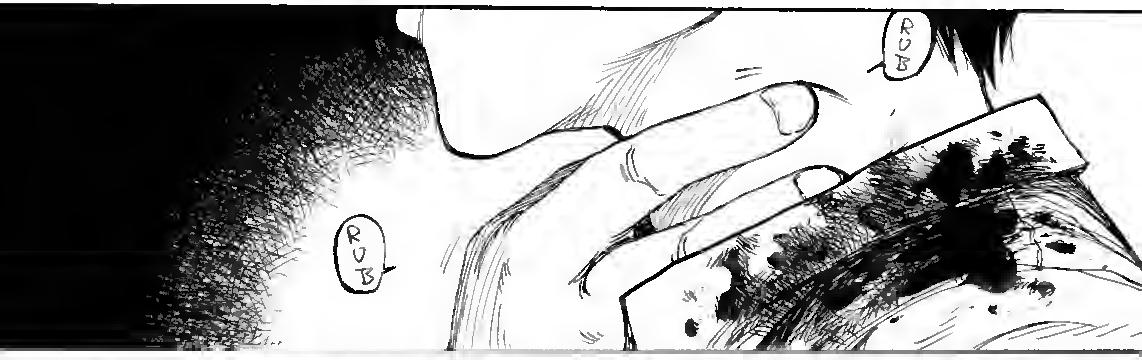
WON'T EVERY HUMAN ...
ACT THE SAME WAY ?

I JUST HAVE TO KILL THEM.
THEY CAN'T EVEN COME BACK TO LIFE.

No need to be scared... Kehe-heh.
Mister Sato said to take you alive.
...
!
... WHAT'S GOING ON?

YOU...
NEED TO MOVE.
OOZE
OOZE

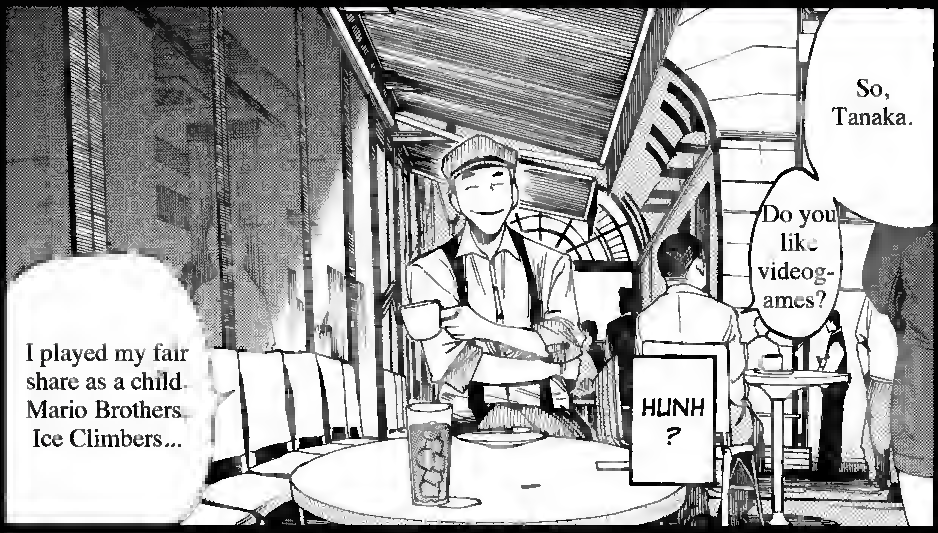

A human, I see.
Pre-tending to be ...


RUB
RUB

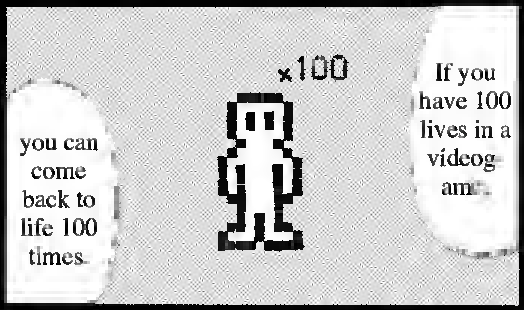
I'M A... DEMI-HU-MAN ...
... SO ...

I...
Demi...
Human...
WELL, HARD NOT TO BELIEVE IT WHEN
I'VE BEEN ABLE TO SEE THIS THING FOR A BIT NOW...

File:04 End


So, Tanaka.
Do you like videog-ames?
HUNH ?
I played my fair share as a child Mario Brothers Ice Climbers...

But ...
you can always find tricks in games
CAFE

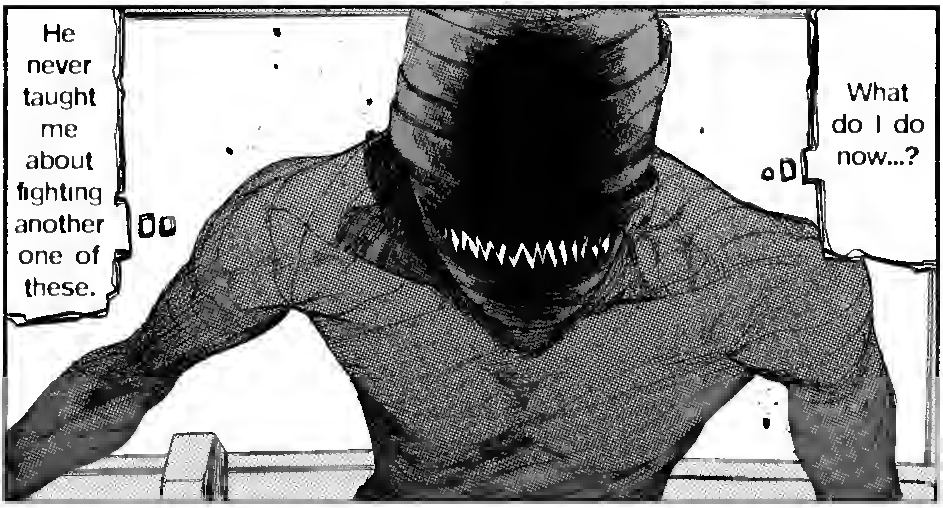

×100
If you have 100 lives in a videog-am-
you can come back to life 100 times

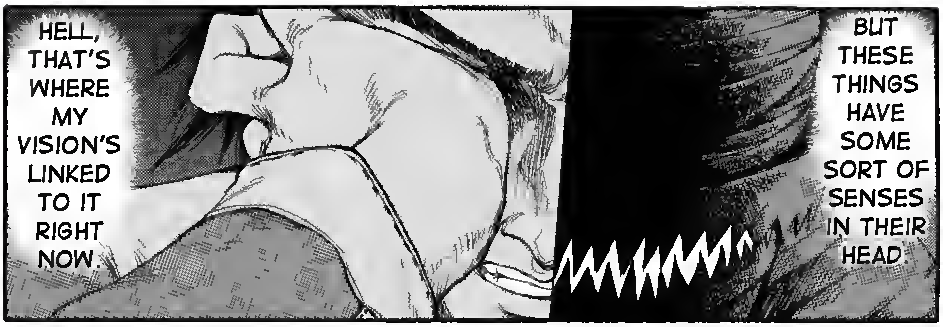
What if you could use...
two lives at the same time ...?
What happens to the extra life ?

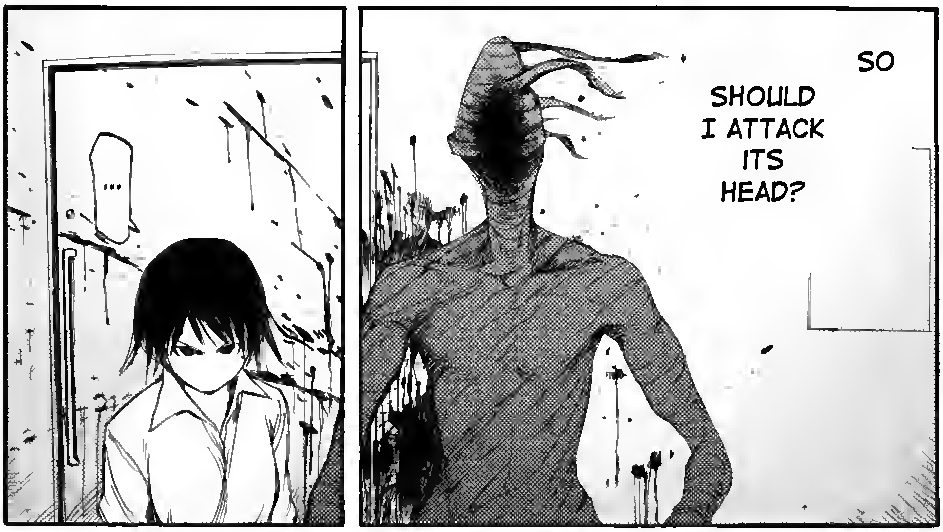
It's like that.
Once you get the basics down, it's easy...
Did you know?
Demi-humans regenerate by gathering pieces of themselves around a core chunk.
But,
pieces that are too far away can't be recovered, so new ones are created...

Gives you chills,
doesn't it?!
What if that piece
was your head ?
GRASP
Oh ...
OOZE
!

You too ?

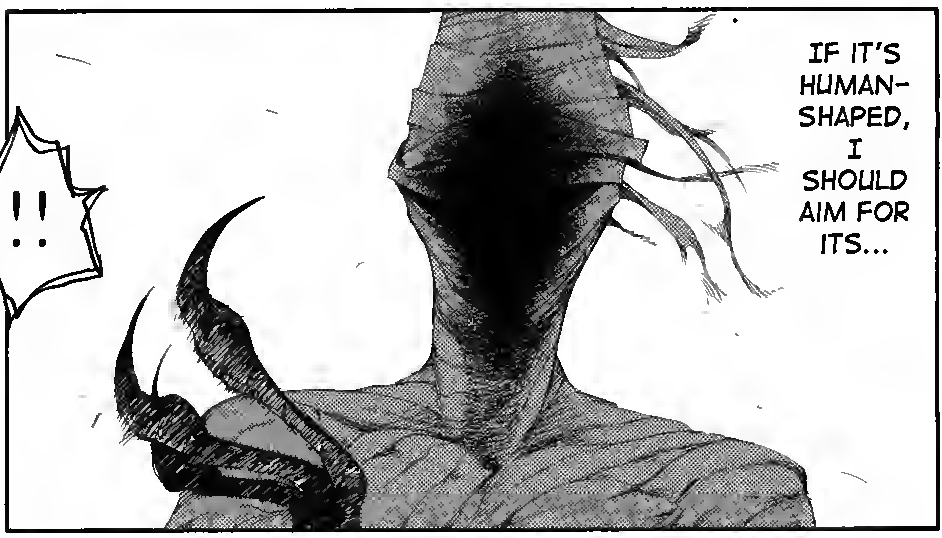

He never taught me about fighting another one of these.
What do I do now...?


HELL, THAT'S WHERE MY VISION'S LINKED TO IT RIGHT NOW.
BUT THESE THINGS HAVE SOME SORT OF SENSES IN THEIR HEAD

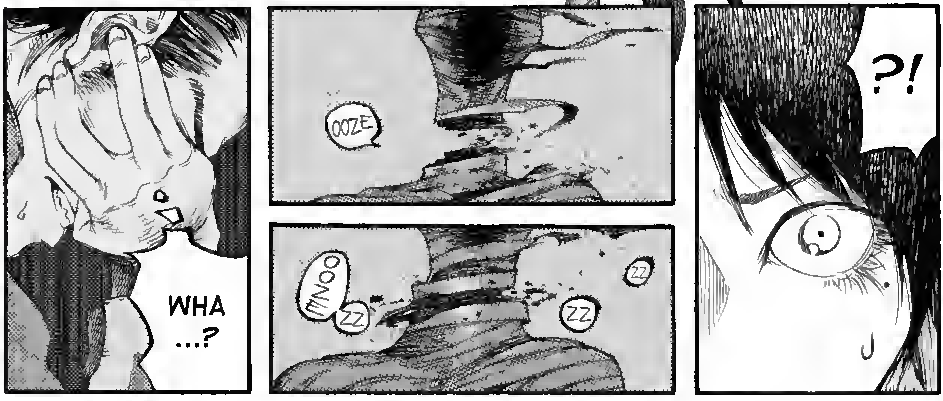

...
SO SHOULD I ATTACK ITS HEAD?

NO, NOW'S NOT THE TIME FOR THAT.
HOW LONG HAS IT BEEN SINCE I BROUGHT KURO OUT?

CAN I EVEN FIGHT IT OFF IN THE FIRST PLACE...?
HOW DO I FIGHT THAT THING OFF?

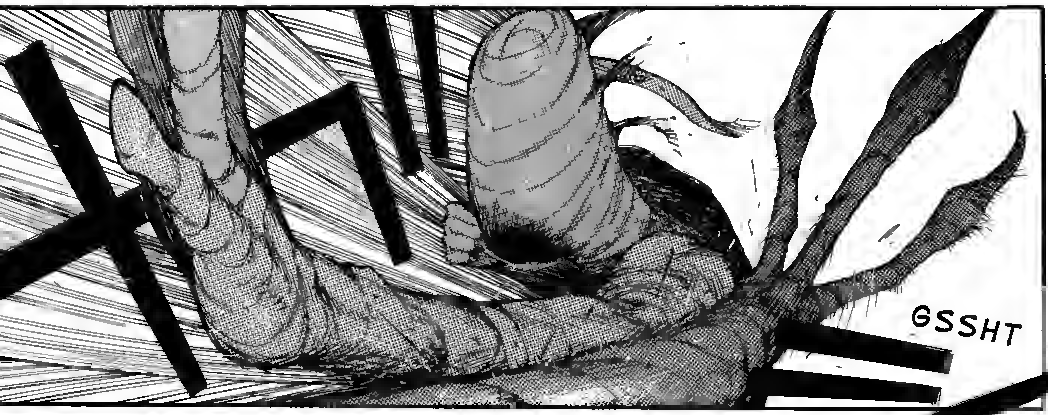

!!
IF IT'S HUMAN-SHAPED, I SHOULD AIM FOR ITS...

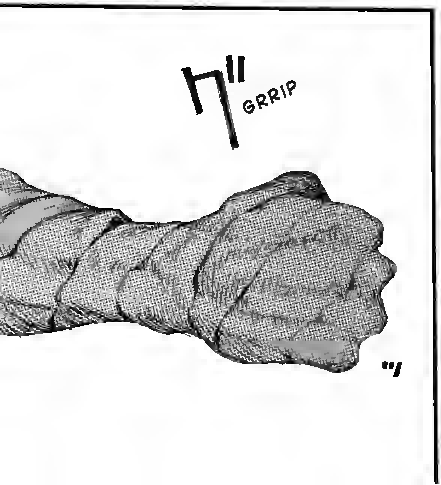
SBATT


WHA ...?
OOZE
ZZ
ZZ
?!

I GUESS I'LL JUST HAVE TO TRY...!!
GRRIP
...MMH

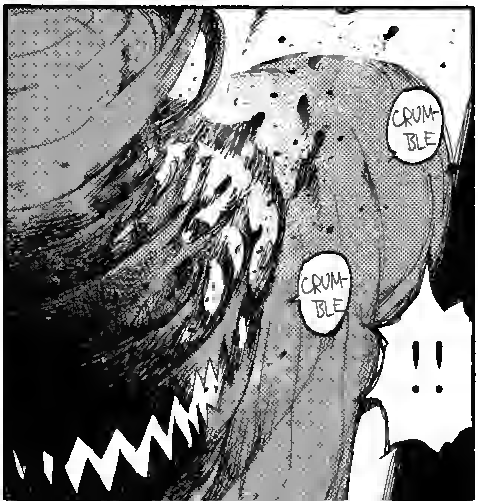
SWOOP

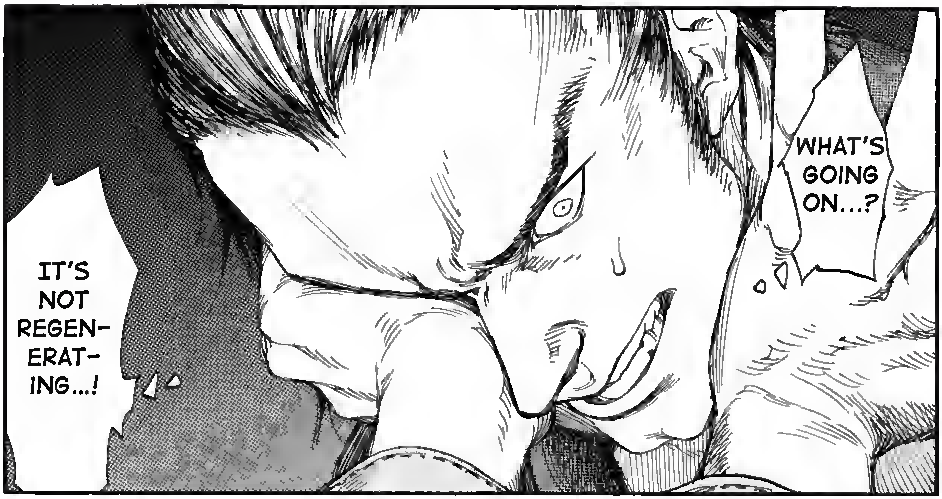

GSSHT


GRRIP

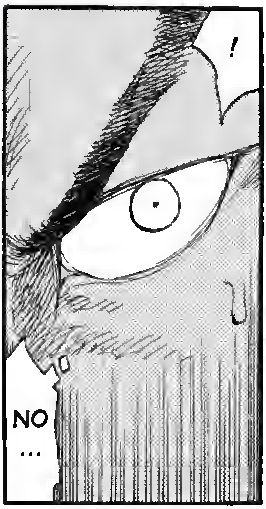
THUKK

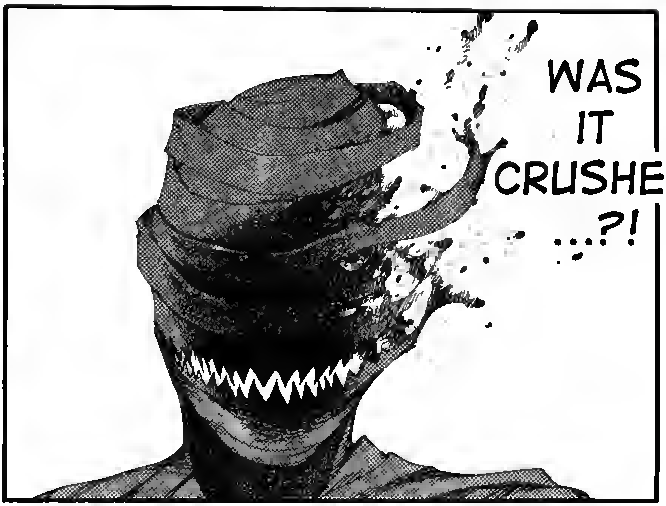
Wh
...
at
...?!
?!


CRUM-
BLE
CRUM-
BLE
!!


IT'S NOT REGEN-ERAT-ING...!
WHAT'S GOING ON...?

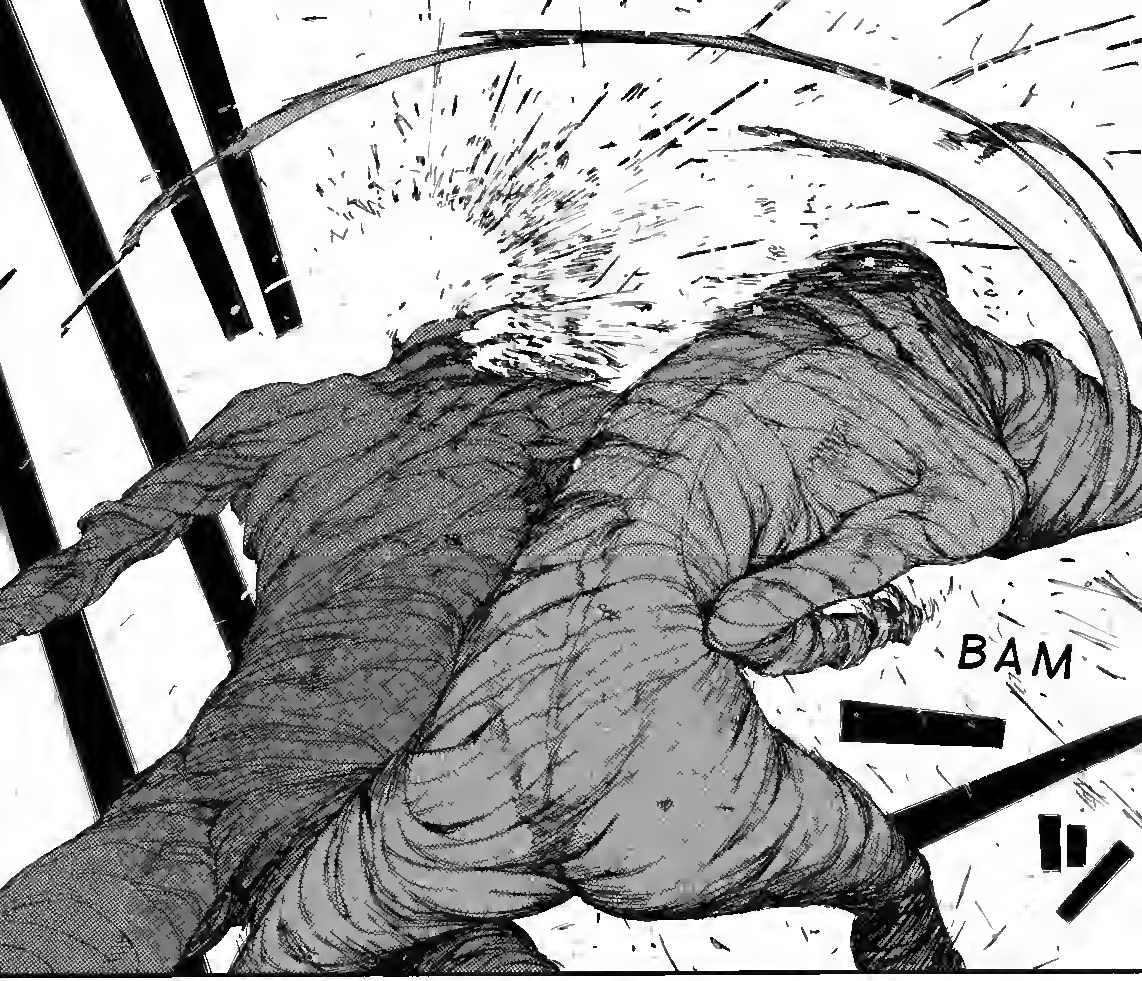
I'M... LOSING MY LINK...
ITS VISION ISN'T COMING THROUGH ...

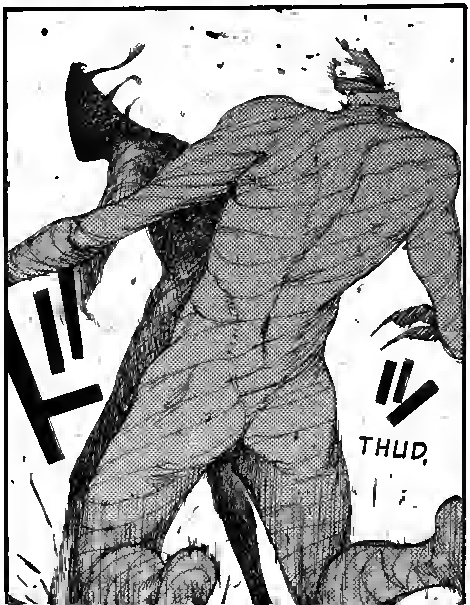

!
NO ...


WAS IT CRUSHED ...?!

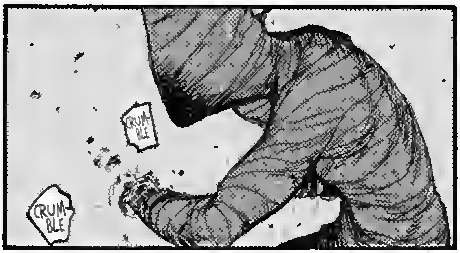
SO ...
CRUM-BLE
THEY'RE DESTROY-ING EACH OTHER ...?!
STRIKES WORK ...?!
!

THUMP

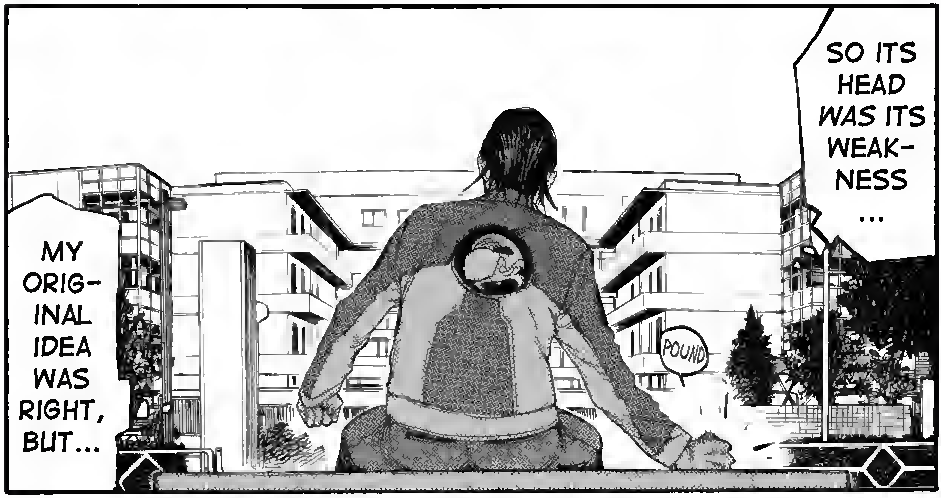

BAM


THUD.

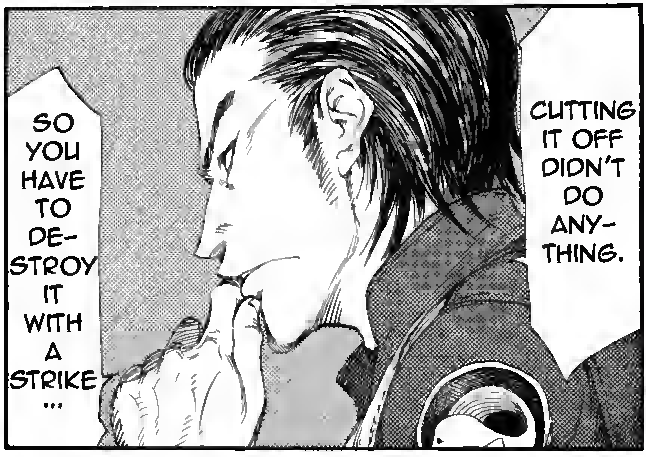
CRUM-BLE
CRUM-BLE

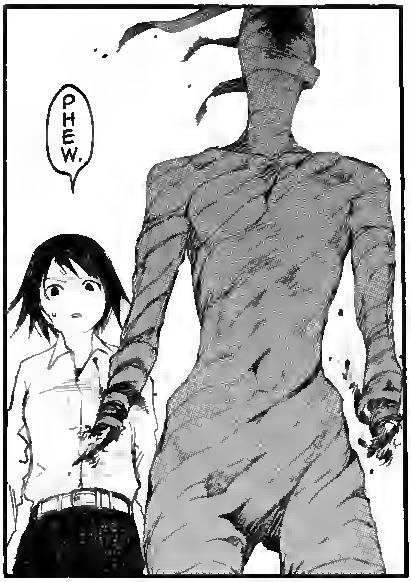

CRUM-BLE
CRUM-BLE

I LOST MY CONNEC-TION!
HUH?!


SO ITS HEAD WAS ITS WEAK-NESS ...
POUND
MY ORIG-INAL IDEA WAS RIGHT, BUT...

KE-HE-HEH.
I LEARNED SOME-THING TODAY.

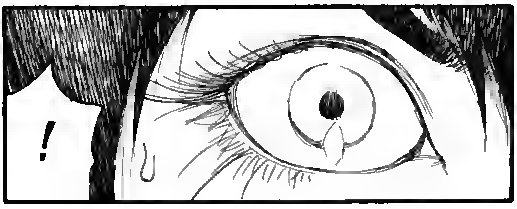

SO YOU HAVE TO DE-STROY IT WITH A STRIKE ...
CUTTING IT OFF DIDN'T DO ANY-THING.

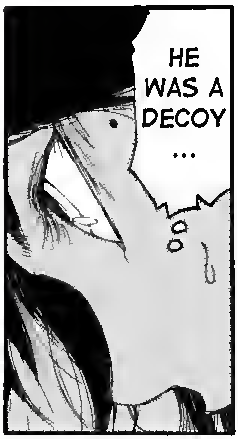

PHEW.

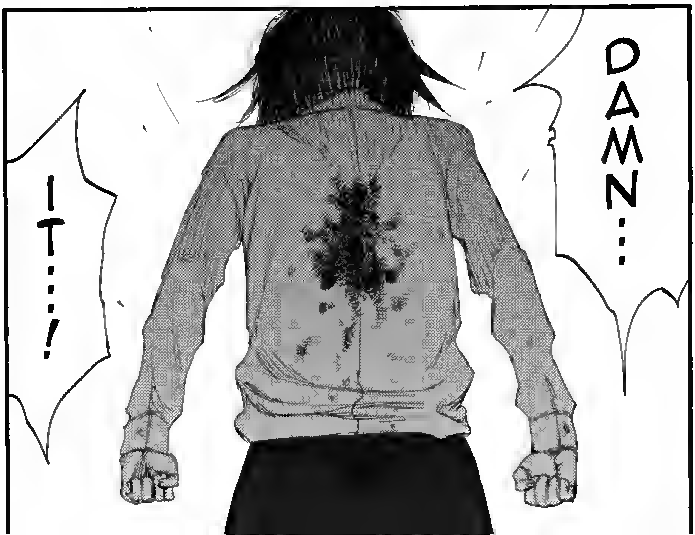
CRUM-BLE
CRUM-BLE

I'M GLAD THAT MISTER TOSAKI WASN'T HERE, THOUGH.
I NEED TO CALL THE SPECIAL TEAM TO CLEAN THIS UP.

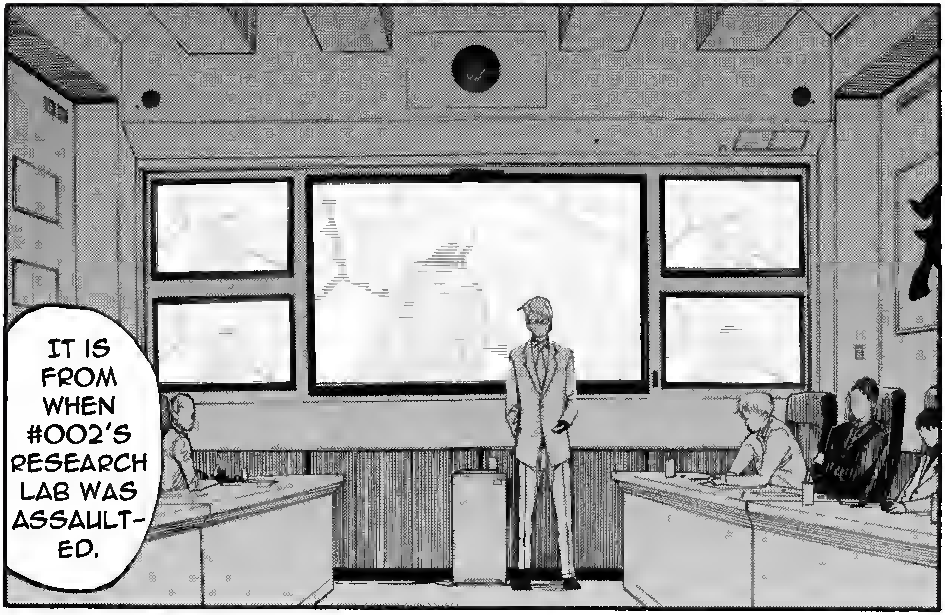
I WAS ABLE TO PROTECT THAT GIRL
AND ...

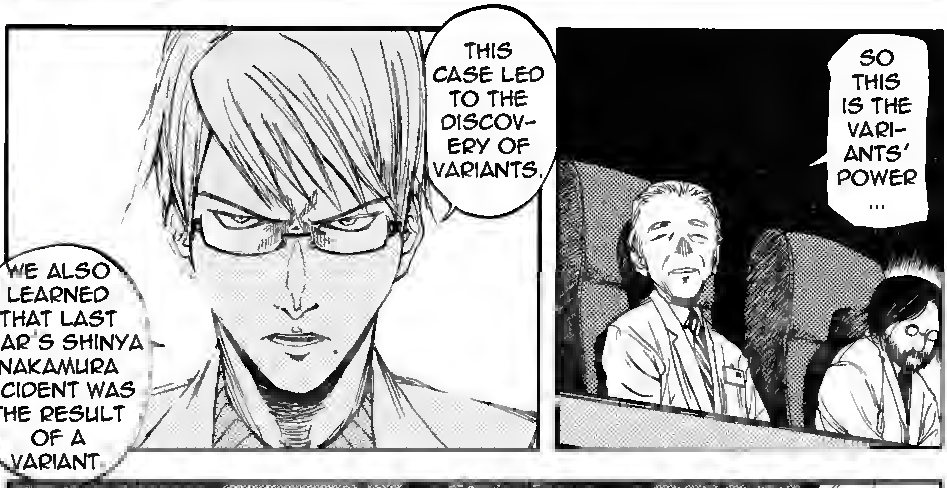

!

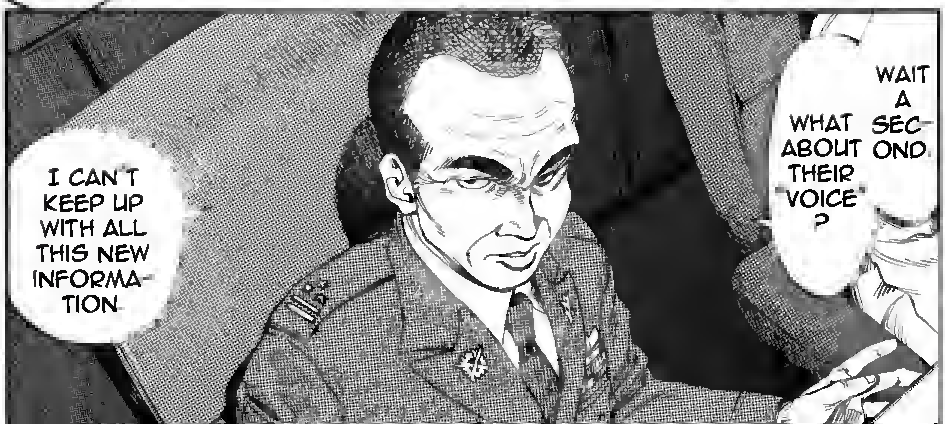

HE WAS A DECOY ...


DAMN...
IT...!

SO THERE WAS ANOTHER ONE...!
THIS FOOT-AGE
IS FROM LAST MONTH.
THUB-BPT

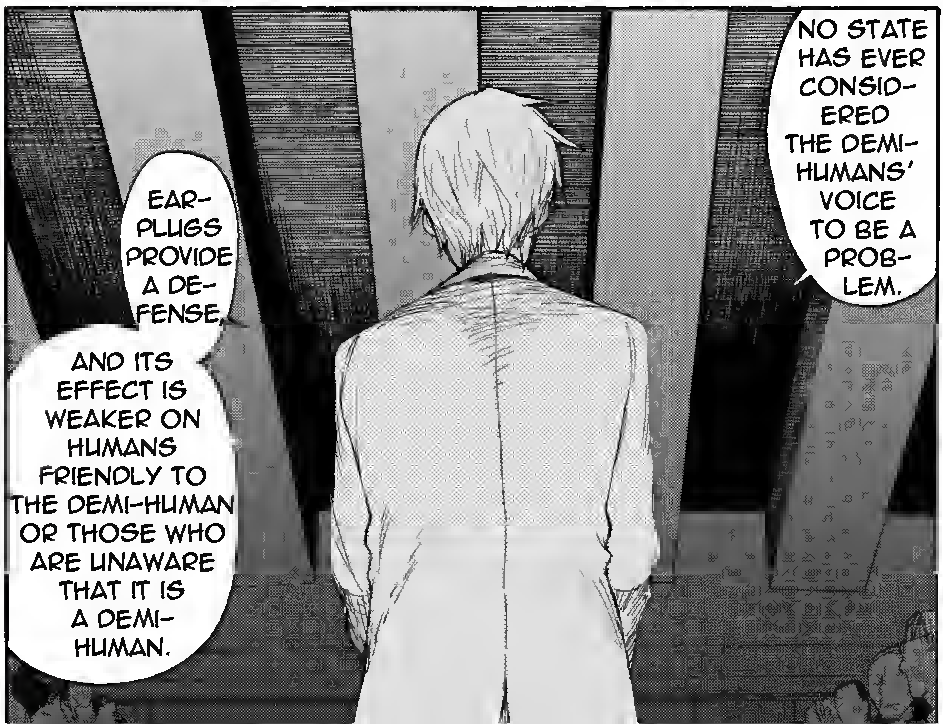

IT IS FROM WHEN #002'S RESEARCH LAB WAS ASSAULT-ED.


THIS CASE LED TO THE DISCOV-ERY OF VARIANTS.
WE ALSO LEARNED THAT LAST YEAR'S SHINYA NAKAMURA INCIDENT WAS THE RESULT OF A VARIANT.
SO THIS IS THE VARI-ANTS' POWER ...

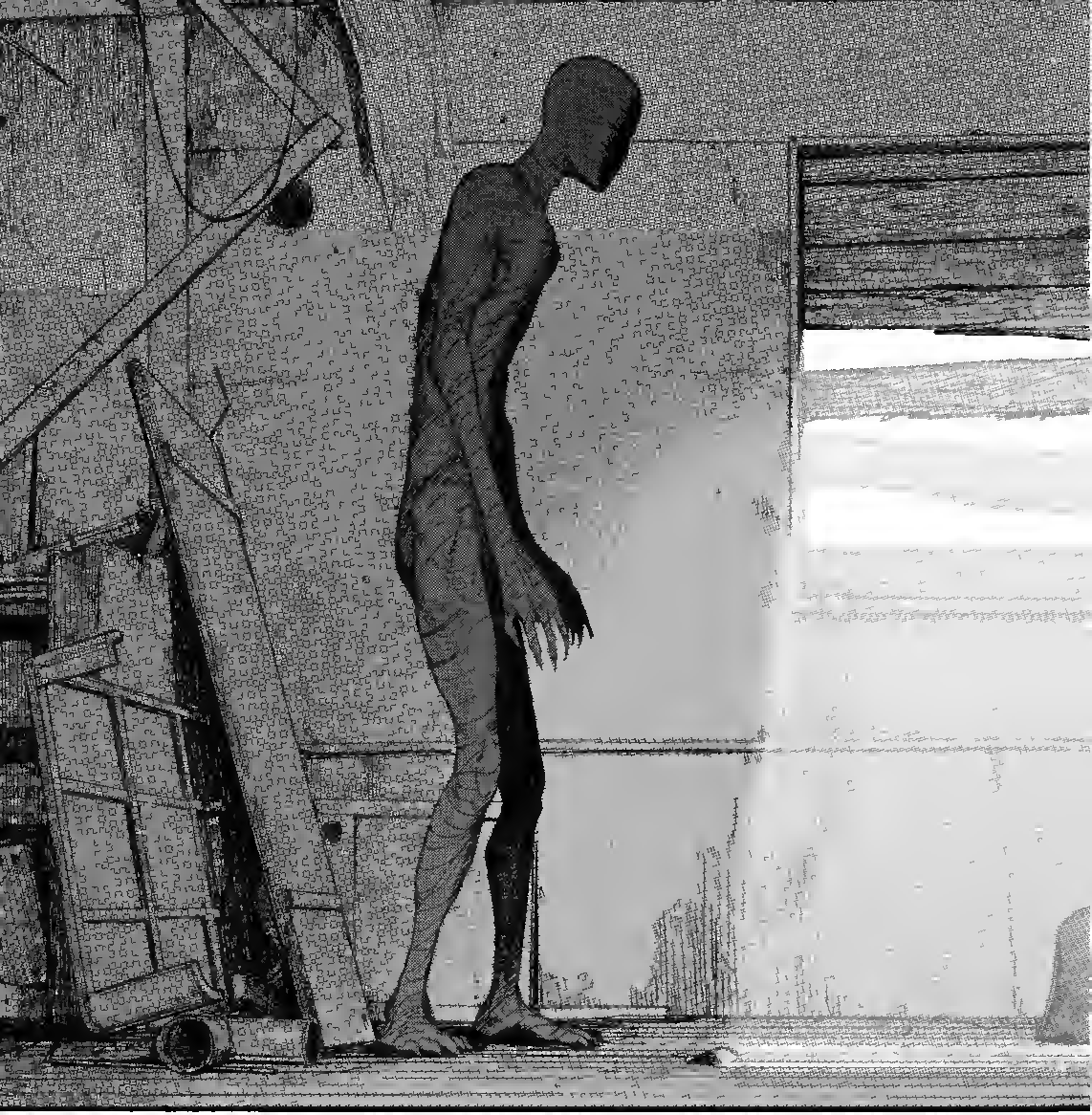

I CAN'T KEEP UP WITH ALL THIS NEW INFORMA-TION.
WAIT A SEC-OND. WHAT ABOUT THEIR VOICE?

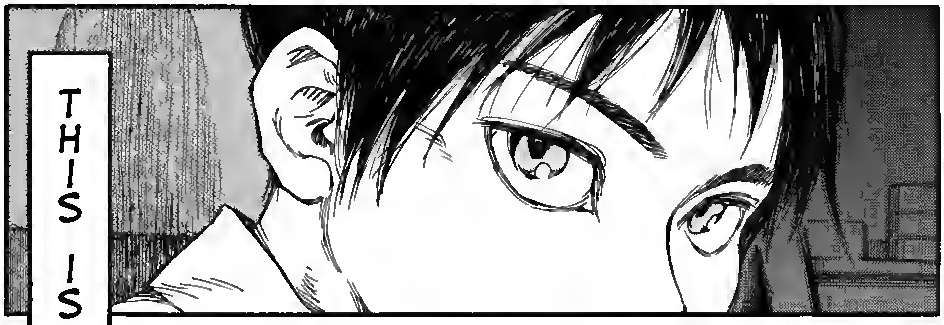
YOU CAN EXPLAIN THAT WITH TONIC IMMOBILITY.

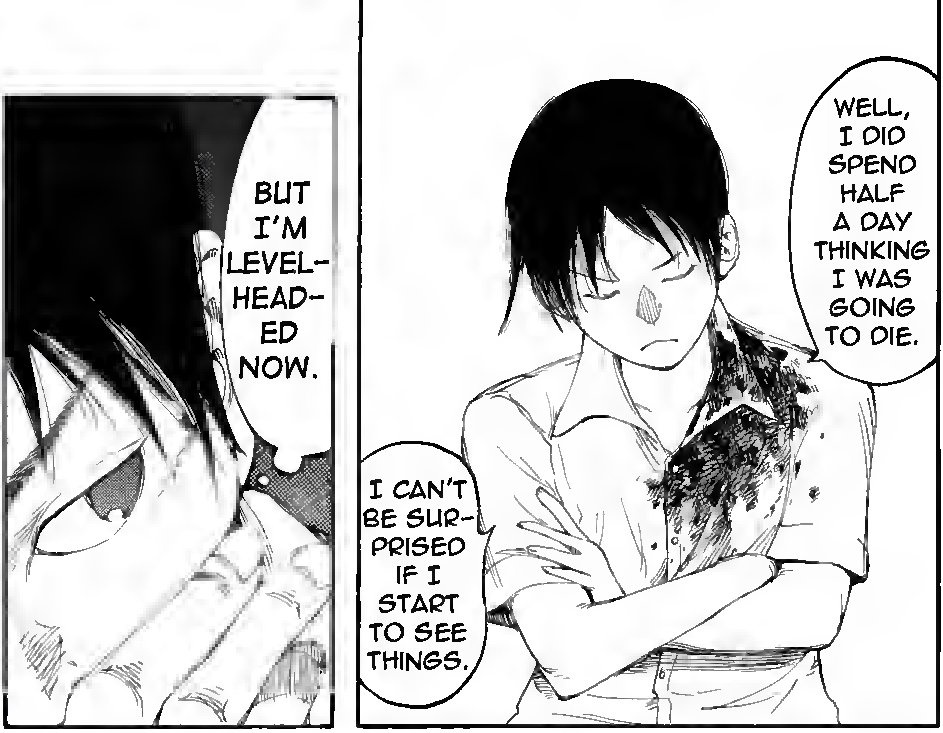
CHANG-ES IN MUSCLE TENSION RENDER YOU IM-MOBILE.
IT'S A DEFENSIVE INSTINCT TRIGGERED BY STIMULA-TION FROM A SUPERIOR BEING.

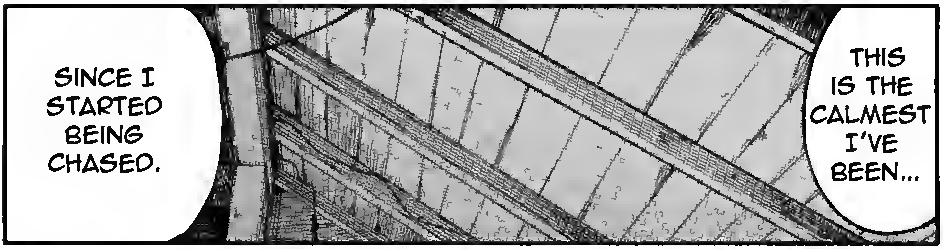

NO STATE HAS EVER CONSID-ERED THE DEMI-HUMANS' VOICE TO BE A PROB-LEM.
EAR-PLUGS PROVIDE A DE-FENSE.
AND ITS EFFECT IS WEAKER ON HUMANS FRIENDLY TO THE DEMI-HUMAN OR THOSE WHO ARE UNAWARE THAT IT IS A DEMI-HUMAN.

EX-CUSE ME.
SHOULDN'T THAT BE OFF?
CLICK
WE ARE ALSO CONDUCT-ING AN IMPORTANT EXPERI-MENT...
BZZZZZ
OUR ATTEN-TION SHOULD BE...
Izumi Shimomura
Options
Close
THE CLASH TURNED OUT WELL...
...IT SEEMS



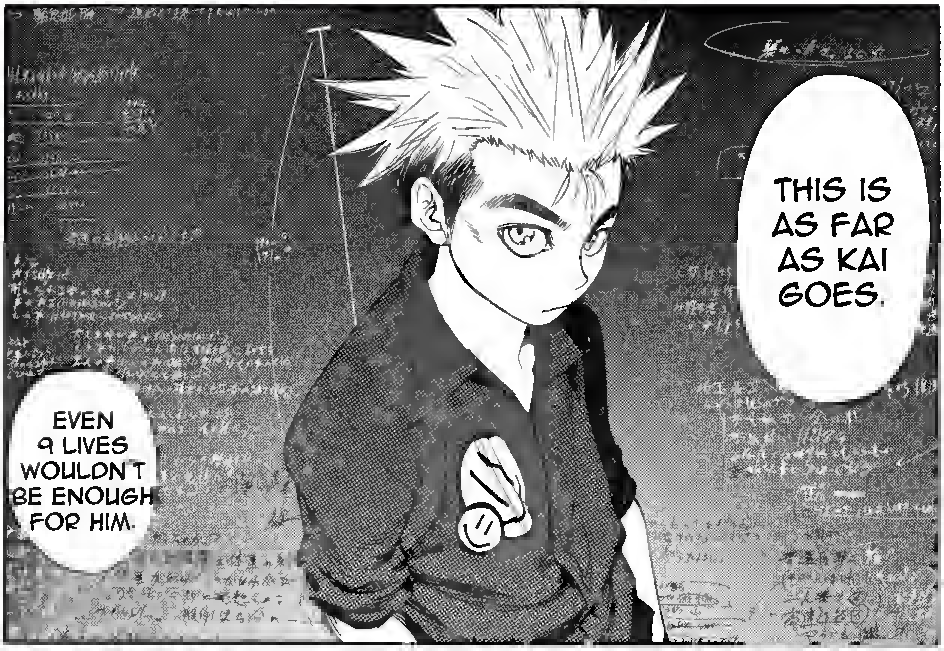

THIS IS...

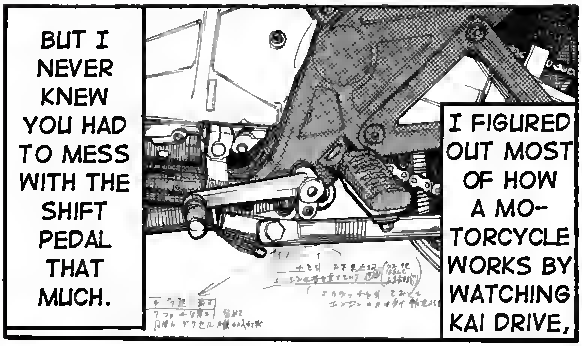

BUT I'M LEVEL-HEAD-ED NOW.
WELL, I DID SPEND HALF A DAY THINKING I WAS GOING TO DIE.
I CAN'T BE SUR-PRISED IF I START TO SEE THINGS.

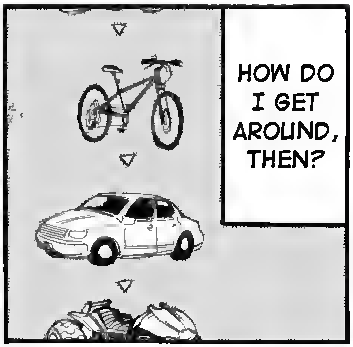

SINCE I STARTED BEING CHASED.
THIS IS THE CALMEST I'VE BEEN...

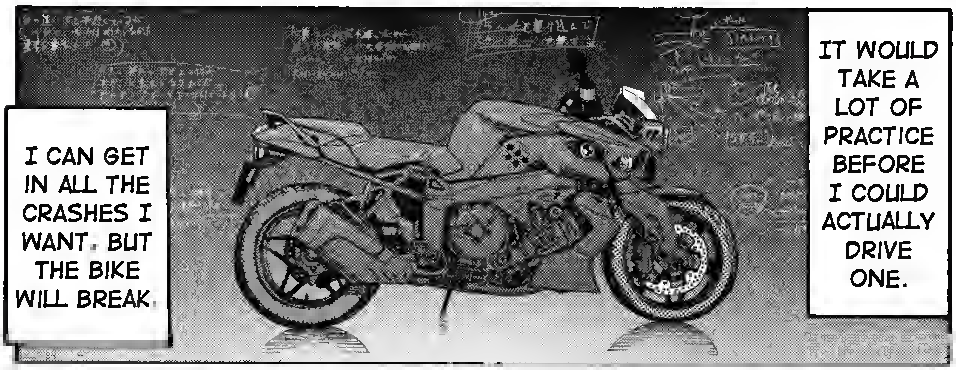
HOW CAN I GO ABOUT WITHOUT GETTING CAPTURED ...?
I NEED TO DECIDE WHAT I'M DOING NEXT...

FIRST, THE PLAN TO GO TO KYUSHU.
NOT HAPPENING. I CAN'T TRUST OTHERS.
ALSO, IT'S ALMOST 1000 KM AWAY.
MORE WITH DETOURS.
I'D NEVER GET THERE.
IT'S TOO DANGEROUS
FOR A HUMAN.


THIS IS AS FAR AS KAI GOES.
EVEN 9 LIVES WOULDN'T BE ENOUGH FOR HIM.

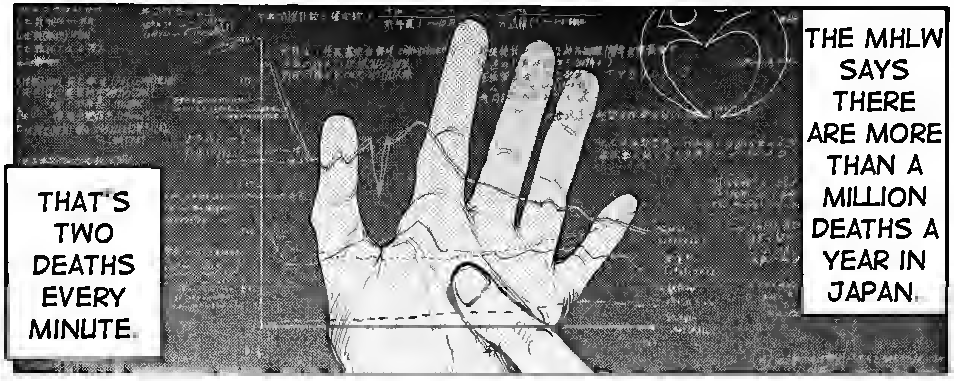

BUT I NEVER KNEW YOU HAD TO MESS WITH THE SHIFT PEDAL THAT MUCH.
I FIGURED OUT MOST OF HOW A MO-TORCYCLE WORKS BY WATCHING KAI DRIVE,

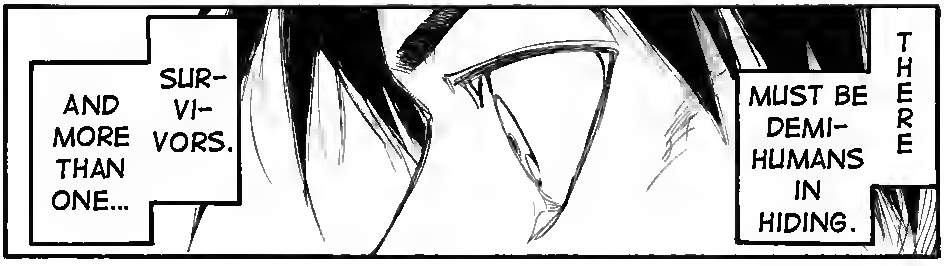

HOW DO I GET AROUND, THEN?

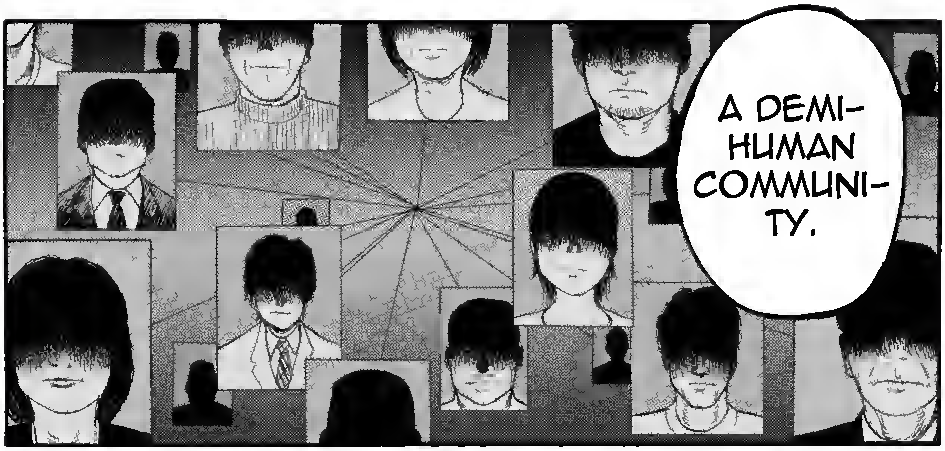

I CAN GET IN ALL THE CRASHES I WANT. BUT THE BIKE WILL BREAK.
IT WOULD TAKE A LOT OF PRACTICE BEFORE I COULD ACTUALLY DRIVE ONE.

I MAY NOT BE DISCOVERED IF I WENT DEEPER.
THERE'S ALSO THE OPTION OF STAYING IN THIS MOUNTAIN.
I REMEMBER A NEWS REPORT ...
2,396 PEOPLE GOT LOST IN MOUNTAINS LAST YEAR. 294 OF THEM DIED OR WENT MISSING...
BUT THAT'D BE NO BETTER THAN GETTING CAPTURED
COULDN'T I SURVIVE WITHOUT HAVING TO LEAVE?
IF I CAN KEEP STARVING TO DEATH AND COMING BACK TO LIFE,
3 Demi-humans ... in Japan...
I'M ALL ALONE.
SO THIS IS IT.

NO.
THERE ARE MORE.


THAT'S TWO DEATHS EVERY MINUTE.
THE MHLW SAYS THERE ARE MORE THAN A MILLION DEATHS A YEAR IN JAPAN.


AND MORE THAN ONE...
SUR-VI-VORS.
MUST BE DEMI-HUMANS IN HIDING.
THERE


A DEMI-HUMAN COMMUNI-TY.

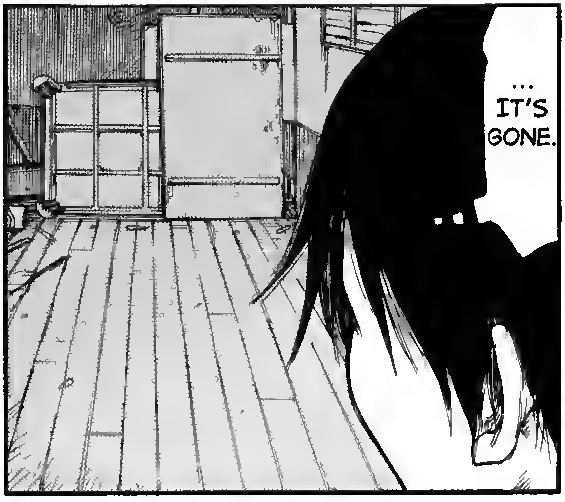
IF I CAN CONTACT THEM, I CAN LEARN...
HOW AND WHERE TO LIVE WITHOUT BEING DISCOVERED BY HUMANS.

KEI?

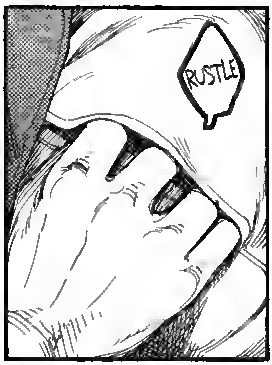
OH ...
KAI ...

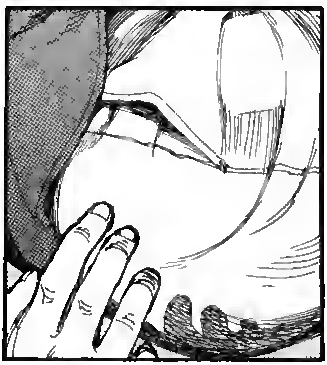
HEY, I'M BACK.

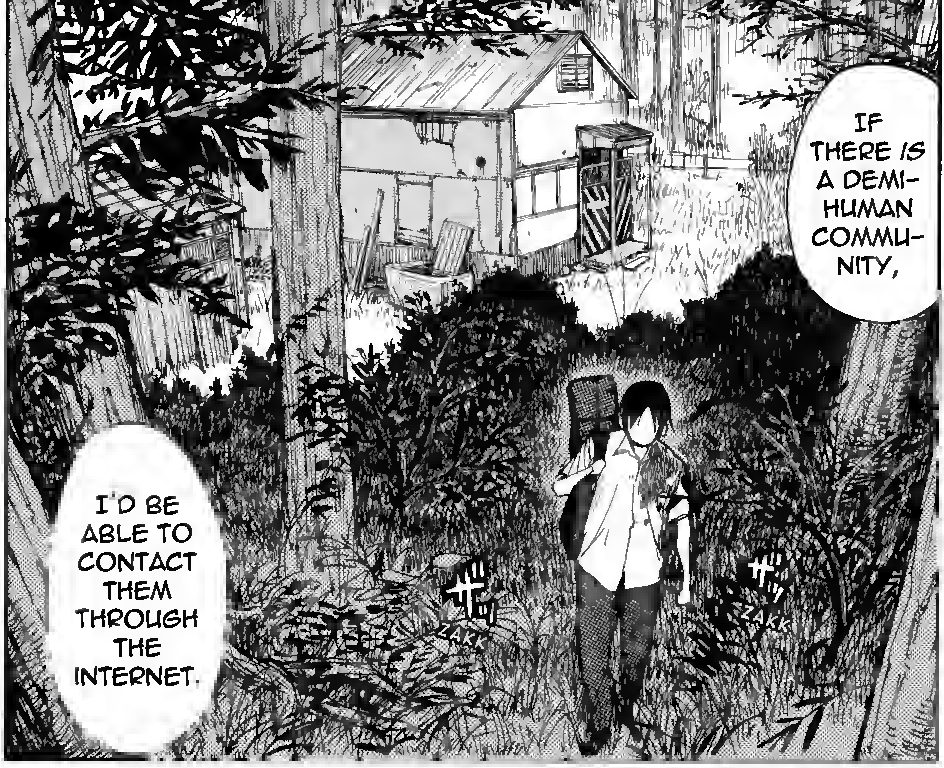
WHAT'S THERE?
NOTH-ING

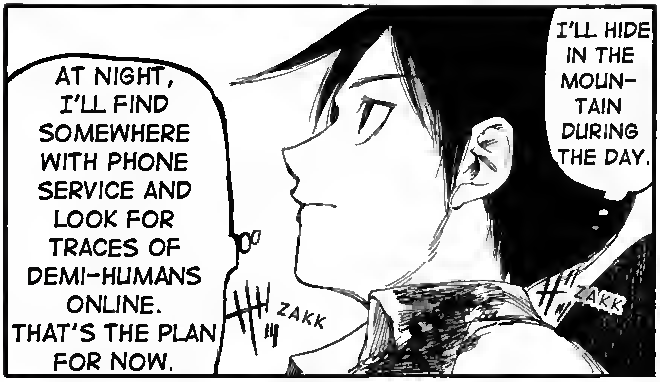

... IT'S GONE.

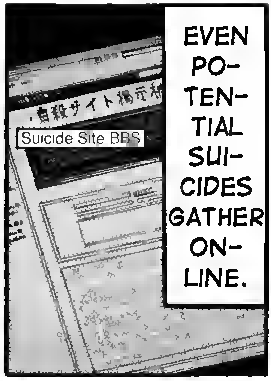
OKAY.
LET'S SWITCH OFF TAKING ONE-HOUR NAPS, OKAY?


RUSTLE




IF THERE IS A DEMI-HUMAN COMMUNITY,
I'D BE ABLE TO CONTACT THEM THROUGH THE INTERNET.
ZAKK
ZAKK

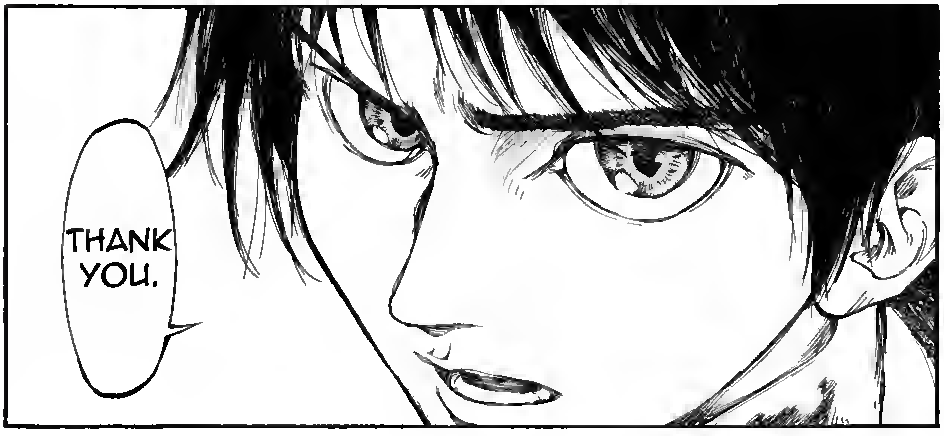

I'LL HIDE IN THE MOUNTAIN DURING THE DAY.
AT NIGHT, I'LL FIND SOMEWHERE WITH PHONE SERVICE AND LOOK FOR TRACES OF DEMI-HUMANS ONLINE. THAT'S THE PLAN FOR NOW.
ZAKK
ZAKK

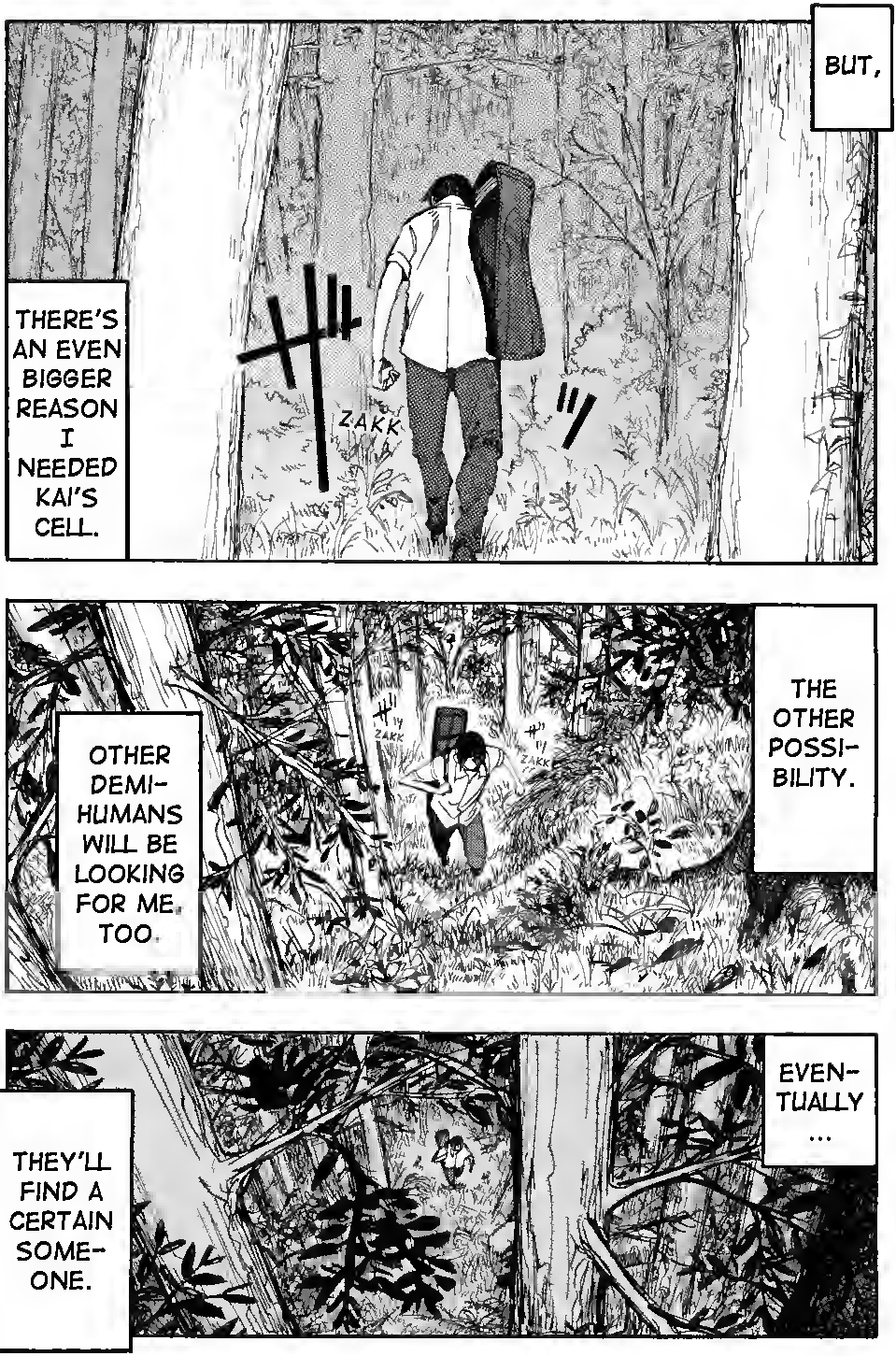

EVEN POTENTIAL SUICIDES GATHER ONLINE.
Suicide Site BBS

I CAN'T TURN MY CELL ON.
THAT'S WHY I NEEDED KAI'S.

...
THE ONE GUY I OWE ...
IS KAI...

YOU WERE WITH ME...
ALL THE WAY HERE ...

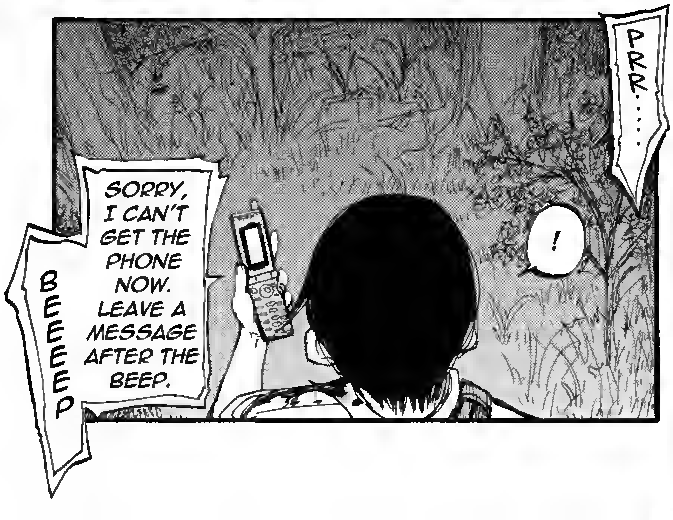

THANK YOU.


BUT,
THERE'S AN EVEN BIGGER REASON I NEEDED KAI'S CELL.
ZAKK
THE OTHER POSSI-BILITY.
OTHER DEMI-HUMANS WILL BE LOOKING FOR ME, TOO.
ZAKK
EVEN-TUALLY ...
THEY'LL FIND A CERTAIN SOME-ONE.

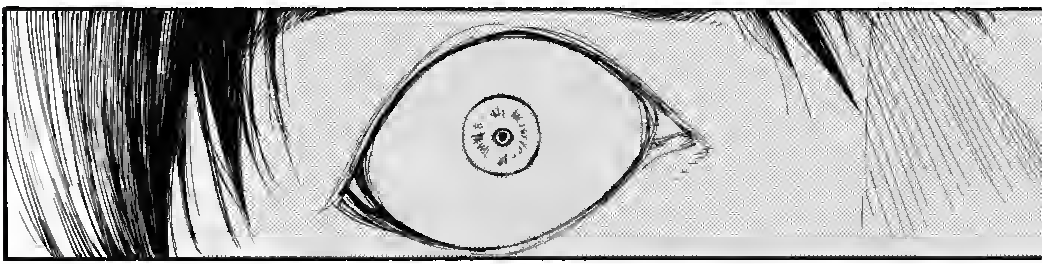
PRRRRING
PRRRRING
TALK ABOUT TIMING.
I ALMOST HAD A HEART ATTACK...

THE ONE PERSON WHO KNOWS ABOUT MY RELA-TIONSHIP WITH KAI.
慧理子ちゃん
Eriko
着信
Incoming Call
MY LITTLE SISTER ...!
PRRR NG
PRRR NG

I NEED TO FIND OUT WHO IT IS.
BUT THE POLICE ARE IN THE SAME SITUA-TION.

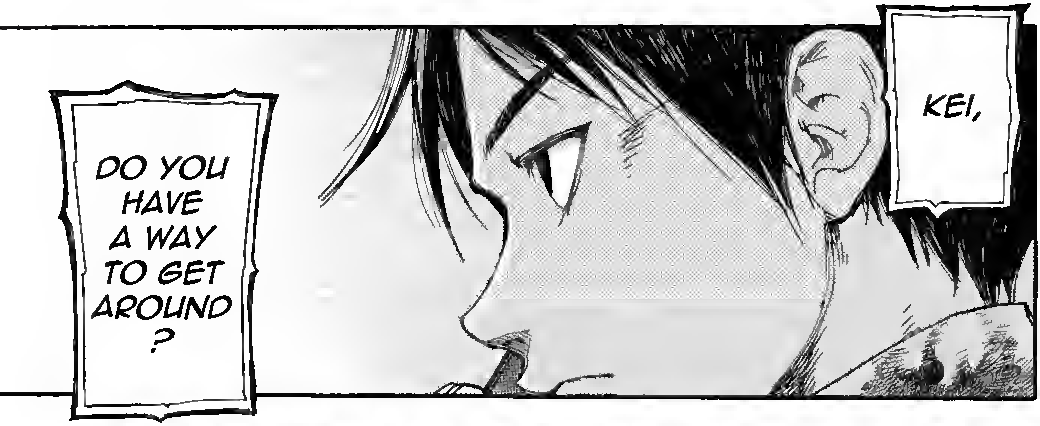

SORRY, I CAN'T GET THE PHONE NOW. LEAVE A MESSAGE AFTER THE BEEP.
BEEEP
PRRR....
!
IS THIS CALL FROM DEMI-HUMANS ...
OR HU-MANS ?

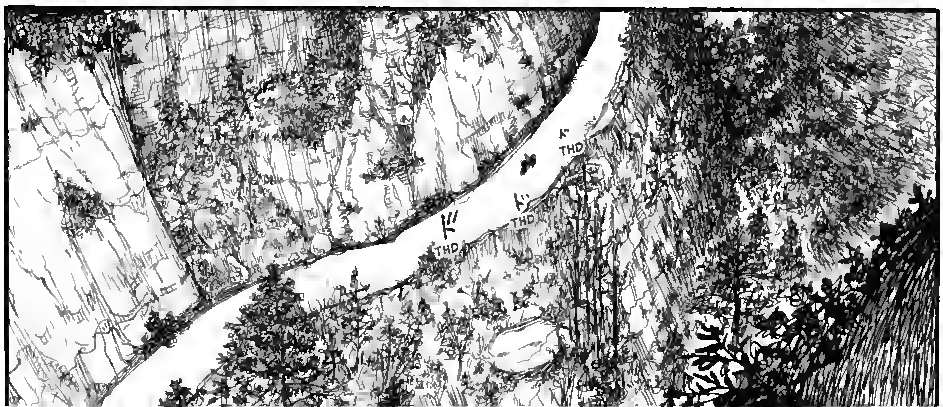
メッセージ録音
Recording Message
Have you ...
ever seen a black ghost?



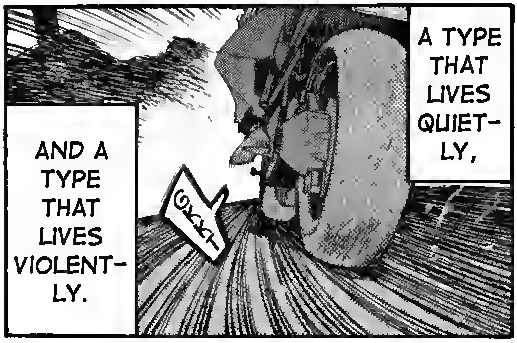
THIS IS KEI.
HEH. I DIDN'T EXPECT YOU TO BE THE ONE PICKING UP.
YOU'RE DEMI-HU-MANS, RIGHT ?

YES.
IN-
DEED
WE
ARE.

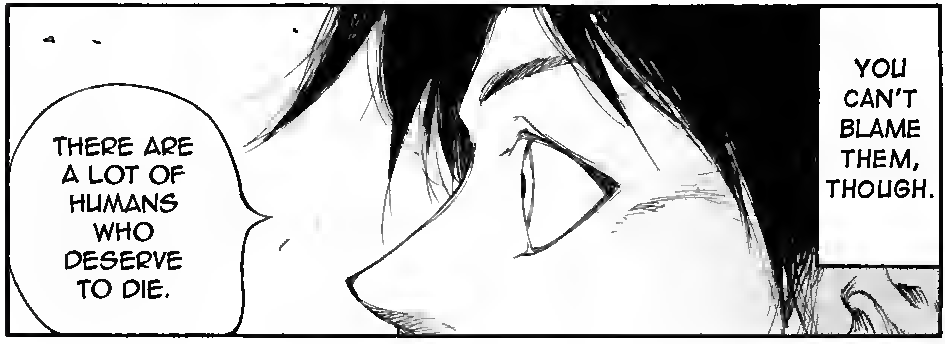

KEI,
DO YOU
HAVE
A WAY
TO GET
AROUND
?


THD
THD
THD

THUDUDUDUDU
DUDUDU


A TYPE THAT LIVES QUIETLY,
AND A TYPE THAT LIVES VIOLENTLY.
ぐぐぐ

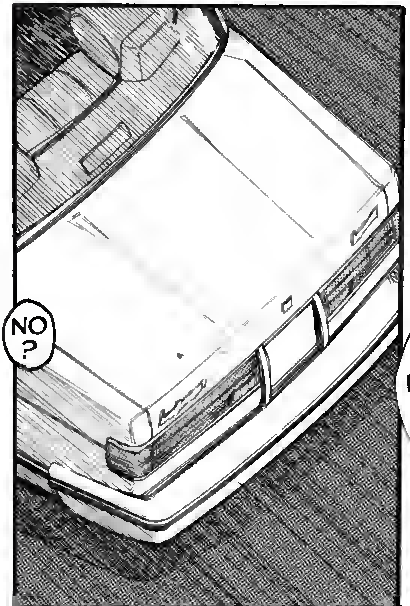
DEMI-HUMAN "COMMUNITIES."
THERE SHOULD BE TWO MAJOR TYPES.


YOU CAN'T BLAME THEM, THOUGH.
THERE ARE A LOT OF HUMANS WHO DESERVE TO DIE.

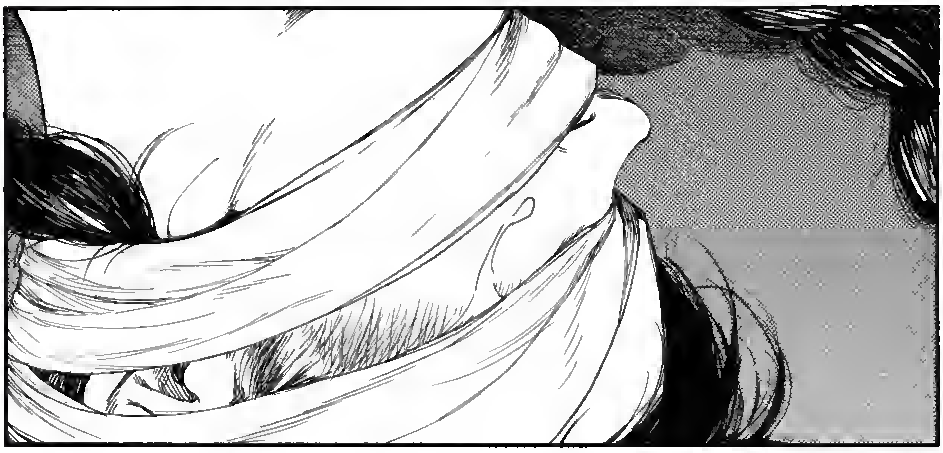
WHAT DO YOU THINK, TANAKA?
HUH?

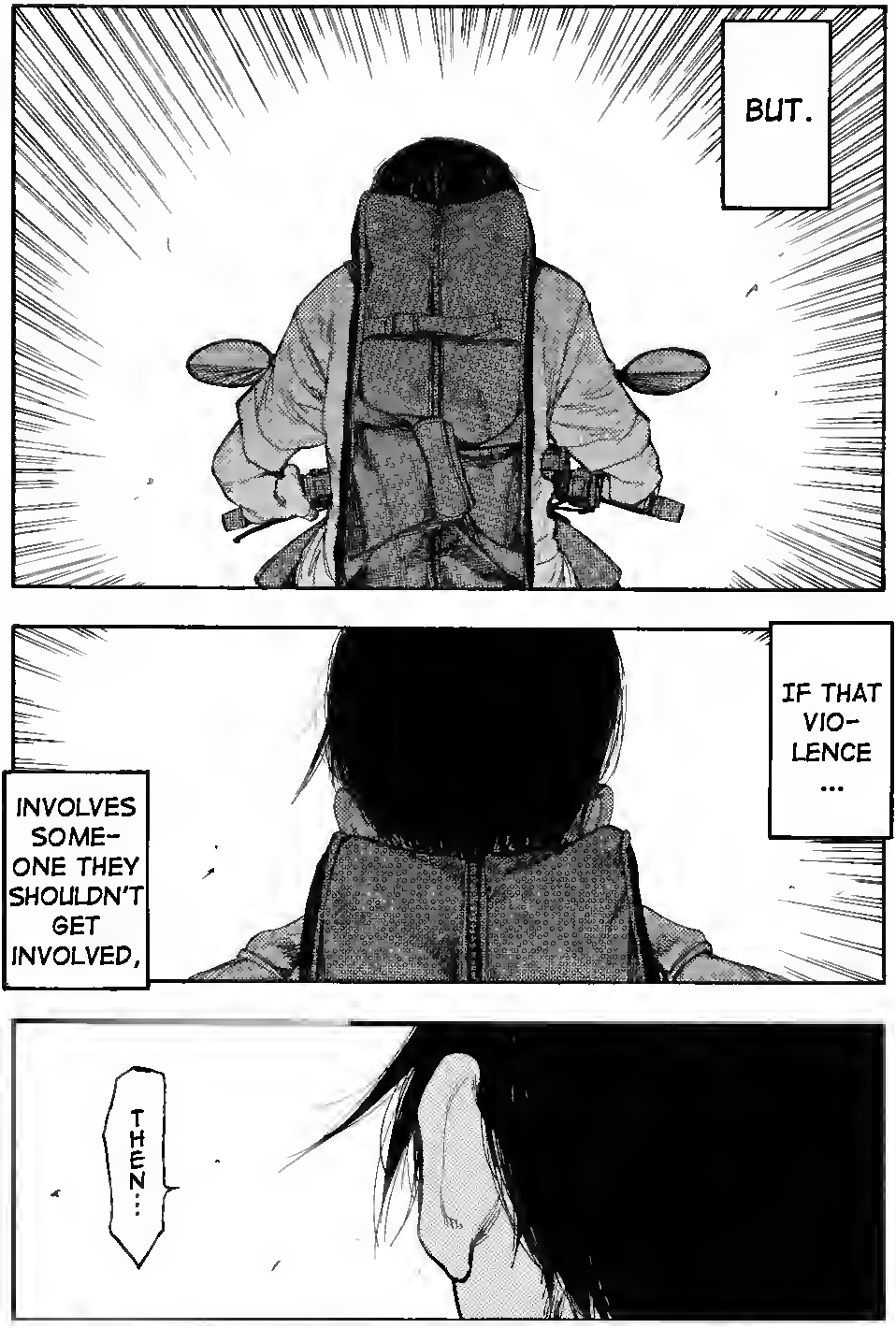
BUT IT'S ONLY BEEN HALF A DAY...

HE'S BEEN ABLE TO UNCONSCIOUSLY BRING ONE OUT SINCE HE WAS LITTLE, SO...
THERE'S PROMISE THERE...


NO?

WE NEED TO FIND OUT MORE...




BUT.
IF THAT VIO-LENCE ...
INVOLVES SOME-ONE THEY SHOULDN'T GET INVOLVED,
THEN...

I'LL KILL THEM.
File:05 End